FBIS DAILY REPORT

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CAPUTO ON 'IMMORAL' ARMS RACE, REGIONAL CONFLICTS

PY311215 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1426 GMT 30 Jan 86

[By Maria Luisa Gonzalez]

[Text] Moscow, 30 Jan (EFE) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo charged here today that the arms race, in a world plagued by underdevelopment, illiteracy, and starvation, is "immoral." Caputo, who is paying an official visit to the USSR, on 29 January hosted a press conference in Moscow. The Argentine minister said that the two countries signed economic, scientific, technical, and cultural agreements, and that progress has been made on political issues. The minister stressed that despite the differences between the Argentine and the Soviet social systems, the two countries can try to make progress in the quest for peace and disarmament. He added that his country's stand against the arms race and world tension is "ethical in nature," and that the arms race reflects "an improper use of world resources, which has affected the poor."

Caputo pointed out that he discussed the easing of tensions in his talks with his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze and with Andrey Gromyko, the head of the Supreme Soviet Presidium. In this regard, the Argentine foreign minister said Argentina advocates a process of worldwide detente because "the occasional easing of tensions between the two superpowers is not always coupled with a similar process in the developing nations." Caputo emphasized that regional conflicts must remain outside the confrontations between the superpowers because "in no way can such conflicts be considered as bilateral affairs involving the two superpowers alone." He stressed the need to keep the Central American conflict outside the U.S.-Soviet confrontation, adding that the conflict must be "Latin Americanized," although, he said, this stand does not entail rejection of economic aid for the region.

Asked about the huge Latin American foreign debt, Caputo advocated the political approach to the problem, pointing out that the possibility of stabilizing the Latin American democracies depends to a considerable extent on economic development. "The debt and the Central American conflict pose the most serious threats to Latin American stability," he added.

Caputo also gave Andrey Gromyko a letter from President Raul Alfonsin to Mikhail Gorbachev, answering a previous letter Gorbachev sent to Alfonsin describing his disarmament proposals. Caputo said this trip yielded positive results for the Argentine delegation, which extended by 5 years the grain agreement the USSR and Argentina signed in 1980, and which signed a cultural agreement, a scientific-technical cooperation accord, and a protocol to regularly hold bilateral political consultations.

President Raul Alfonsin is due to travel to the USSR in the second half of 1986, on a date that has not yet been established. An exposition of Soviet-made products is scheduled to be opened in Argentina in late 1986. Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze also voiced satisfaction with the results of the visit and with the level at which bilateral relations currently stand.

In a speech he delivered after a luncheon honoring Caputo on the afternoon of 30 January, Shevardnadze said that "the USSR and Argentina have set a good example of how to implement a policy of peaceful coexistence and equitable cooperation on the basis of respect for each other's viewpoints, positions, and interests." He concluded by saying that President Alfonsin's upcoming visit "will mark a momentous event in the relations between the two countries, which will be elevated to a higher level."

SARNEY-BETANCUR MANAUS CONFERENCE CONCLUDES

Joint Communique Issued

PY011827 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 31 Jan 86 p 4

[Joint Brazilian-Colombian communique issued to the media after the meeting between Brazilian President Jose Sarney and Colombian President Belisario Betancur in Manaus, Brazil, on 30 January]

[Text] 1. Brazilian President, Jose Sarney and Colombian President Belisario Betancur met in Manaus on 30 January 1986. In addition to the Brazilian foreign minister and the Colombian acting foreign minister, the presidential retinues were comprised of the main government officials in charge of bilateral and multilateral issues of greatest mutual interest.

2. The presidents' meeting was characterized by an atmosphere of great cordiality, a sign of the traditional links of friendship and cooperation that have always united the two countries. It should be noted that bilateral relations have been strengthened over the past few years and that the Manaus meeting establishes a new landmark in the Brazilian-Colombian relationship. The presidential meeting was chosen as the occasion to officially open the first session of the Brazilian-Colombian Cooperation Commission, which was created through the Friendship and Cooperation Treaty that became effective on 10 July 1985.

3. Regarding bilateral issues, the current situation in the coffee market was discussed as well as the role of the two countries within the International Coffee Organization. The two presidents verified that world coffee exports during the October-December 1985 period were the highest of the past 5 years, which proves the effort made by the coffee producing countries to adequately supply the market. The two presidents reasserted the importance they give to the International Coffee Accord as the most appropriate mechanism to guarantee equal prices for the producers as well as for the consumers and to maintain the stability of the coffee market. They also voiced their confidence in the sustained and constructive participation of all producing countries and all the main coffee importers in that accord. Moreover, the two presidents reiterated their intention to preserve and intensify the close and fruitful cooperation they have always maintained in this field.

4. In analyzing the trade exchange between the two countries, the two chiefs of state agreed on the need to significantly increase the volume of this exchange and to reduce the current imbalance in the balance of trade. The two presidents, with great satisfaction, reviewed the various initiatives currently under way seeking to achieve this objective. Among these initiatives is the import of Colombian coal.

5. The presidents also discussed the prospects of various technical and financial cooperation projects, among which are the following:

a) The project to expand Leticia airport and the construction of the Mitu and Porto Inirida airports. Negotiation of these projects should be concluded shortly;

b) The project for the construction of a shipyard in Leticia for the repair of vessels;

c) The project for the construction of the Saboya-Carare railway line for the Colombian National Railway Enterprise;

d) The Tolima triangle project that will seek to develop 3,000 hectares of that Colombian region with the purpose of substantially increasing and diversifying agricultural and livestock production; and

e) The possibility of reaching a sanitary agreement that will expedite bilateral trade in agricultural and livestock products.

6. During the meeting the presidents devoted special attention to subjects regarding cooperation in the Amazon area and the development of the common border. They discussed the prospects of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty and placed emphasis on the upcoming meetings of the Amazon Cooperation Council and the meetings of foreign ministers to be held in La Paz and Quito. They agreed to promote bilateral tools in this regard and, as a consequence, establish as soon as possible, with the exchange of ratification documents, the joint commission provided for in Article IX of the Bilateral Amazon Cooperation Agreement.

7. Both presidents voiced concern over problems stemming from drug trafficking, especially on the border area. They reasserted their respective governments' determination to act decisively to prevent, contain, and supervise the use, traffic, and production of illegal drugs and the production and marketing of raw materials used for the production of drugs. They agreed to strengthen existing Brazilian-Colombian cooperation in this field, which currently operates within the framework of a mutual assistance bilateral agreement signed in 1981. The presidents also pledged to work for the success of the Inter-American Conference on Drug Consumption and Trafficking, to be held in Rio de Janeiro next April, sponsored by the OAS.

8. The chiefs of state voiced satisfaction with the upcoming implementation of the Amazon Bilateral Cooperation Accord, the Cooperation Agreement for the Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy, and the Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement. Exchange of the ratification documents for these three agreements will take place shortly.

9. The two presidents expressed their desire to increase cultural exchanges with the purpose of increasing mutual knowledge regarding the cultural expressions of their peoples, and noted that the recently created Brazilian-Colombian Coordination Commission is one of the work forums through which this objective will be reached.

10. At the continental level, the two presidents reasserted their firm conviction that a peaceful and negotiated solution to the Central American crisis should be reached, based on the proposals made by the Contadora Group and the Contadora Support Group. They recalled with great satisfaction the meeting recently held in Caraballeda, Venezuela by the foreign ministers of the Contadora Group and the Contadora Support Group, which resulted in the "Caraballeda Message". The guidelines contained in this message were signed by Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, thus creating the conditions to resume negotiations with a view toward signing the Contadora Peace Act.

11. The presidents voiced satisfaction with the approval of the "Cartegena de Indias Protocol" during the 14th OAS General Assembly, pointing out its importance for strengthening the organization in the peace, security, and development fields and for increasing its efficiency.

12. During the presidential meeting, the region's economic and financial situation was also discussed. Emphasis was placed on the foreign debt problem. The two presidents agreed on the importance of the Cartagena Consensus, and reiterated their hopes that the efforts started within that forum will efficiently contribute to making the international financial system more just. They noted with satisfaction the creation of the committee, of which the two countries are members, to study the economic situation.

Disagreements Noted

PY022037 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 31 Jan 86 p 6

[Text] Manaus -- A disagreement has surfaced between President Jose Sarney and his Colombian counterpart, Belisario Betancur. During the press conference the two presidents held here, Betancur contended that the task of expelling drug traffickers and guerrillas from the border area also concerned Brazil. For his part, Sarney contended that this is a Colombian domestic problem on which Brazil could not take a position. Brazilian officials have been extremely reluctant to comment on this problem and have clearly sought to sidestep it. Presidential spokesman Fernando Cesar Mesquita yesterday spent most of his time denying information obtained from Itamaraty itself that the topic was to be discussed by the two presidents.

It was Mesquita's denial that was categorically disproved by two facts: First, reporters discovered that General Octavio Medeiros, the Amazon military commander, and Colombian Defense Minister General Miguel Uribe met behind closed doors on the second floor of the Tropical Hotel (Sarney and Betancur met on the first floor). No information has been released on this meeting. Later, President Betancur himself inadvertently disproved Mesquita's contention when he voiced his disagreement with Sarney:

"Guerrilla warfare and the drug trade will have an impact not only on the future of Colombia but also on that of Brazil, Peru, and Venezuela. Therefore, when guerrillas and drug traffickers get together, we should take joint action to expel them."

Unaware of the fact that the Medeiros-Uribe meeting had already been discovered, Mesquita said: "No one wants to make the M-19 the main issue of discussion between the two presidents." Later, upon learning that the meeting between the two generals had been discovered, Mesquita told reporters that Medeiros and Uribe also did not discuss the guerrilla issue. He said they simply got together for a social meeting to drink cupuacu juice.

In case there was still some doubt, Betancur again dispelled it at the press conference when he admitted having discussed the issue with Sarney within the framework of cooperation in the Amazon region. Betancur said: After leaving Colombia, where will guerrillas go? They could undoubtedly come to Brazil. Thus, since we have a 1,600-km-long border, Brazil could also be the target of guerrillas and drug traffickers. In the joint communique, the presidents voiced "serious concern" over problems stemming from drug trafficking, especially in the border area. They reasserted their conviction that action must be taken to prevent, to repress, and to supervise the drug production and trade. Betancur believes the guerrilla and drug trade issues cannot be separated. In his opinion, mutual cooperation should be undertaken on both problems.

M-19 Movements Noted

PY021954 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 31 Jan 86 p 4

[Excerpts] A group of M-19 guerrillas that had been deployed on the Brazilian-Colombian border since last November yesterday began to pull back to the Colombian central Amazon region. This group of nearly 400 men led by Commander Licia was spotted 2 months ago in the Colombian town of Mitu, 600 km north of Tabatinga, a Brazilian town located on the Solimoes River at the Brazilian border with Peru and Colombia. Since Mitu is close to the Brazilian border, the Brazilian Army deployed troops to that area.

According to reports by Indians and rural workers, Commander Licia and his men may have entered Brazilian territory. While denying that the Colombian guerrillas had entered Brazilian territory, in December the Amazon Military Command deployed troops to Sao Joaquim, in the northeastern Amazon region known as the "Dog's Head."

The Army deployed 150 men to Sao Joaquim. Today, only 80 men still remain in that region. The Amazon Military Command has stated that the M-19 guerrilla group did not carry out any actions in Brazilian territory. General Octavio Medeiros, the Amazon military commander, visited Sao Joaquim three times.

After denying reports that Presidents Betancur and Sarney discussed the M-19 actions during their 2-hour meeting, Brazilian presidential spokesman Fernando Cesar Mesquita said: "The government is not concerned about this matter." He said that during their meeting at the Tropical Hotel the two presidents discussed such subjects as coffee, coal, and bilateral trade. He added: "The M-19 guerrillas are a Colombian domestic problem that could not be included in the agenda for discussions between the two presidents."

VEJA CITED ON SOVIET DIPLOMAT'S EXPULSION

PY031314 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] A Soviet diplomat, whom Brazilian authorities identified as a KGB agent, has left that country at the request of the Brazilian Government. The diplomat was expelled after he tried to bribe the police. This information has been reported by VEJA magazine, which added that the Brazilian authorities discreetly asked that the diplomat leave the country. Thus far, the report has not been officially confirmed.

LUSINCHI, DE LA MADRID DISCUSS OIL STRATEGY

PA311530 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] The second private meeting between Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid and President Jaime Lusinchi is currently taking place. During this meeting, the two leaders will determine the strategy that the two countries will implement in placing and selling their oil production in their common markets. President Jaime Lusinchi has described the talks held so far as very positive. He also expressed his satisfaction over the warm reception he has received from the Mexican Government and people.

A joint declaration will be issued at the conclusion of the second private meeting between the Mexican and Venezuelan presidents in Cancun.

Lusinchi Comments

PA311908 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] The presidents of Mexico and Venezuela, meeting in Cancun, this morning agreed to call for a meeting, as soon as possible, with all member-countries of the Cartagena Consensus to analyze the effects of the crisis in the oil market. In addition, in a joint declaration they agreed to defend the participation of Mexico and Venezuela in the oil market and in the process to establish prices.

A few moments ago we received, via satellite, the initial statements of the two presidents on the extent of the agreements reached in Cancun.

[Begin recording] [Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid] I want to express my satisfaction and appreciation for the way in which President Lusinchi, honoring traditional Venezuelan-Mexican friendship, has expressed the Venezuelan position in an attitude that is one of cooperation and agreement with Mexican interests.

[President Jaime Lusinchi] Reporters of Mexico and Venezuela, I don't have much to add to President de la Madrid's remarks. He summarized perfectly well the reason for our meeting and explained the importance of its result.

The two countries, their leaders, and people have been worried about the artificially erratic situation of the oil market.

Taking into account the concurrence of the views that Mexico and Venezuela have had for a long time -- not to say forever -- I came here to talk with President Miguel de la Madrid, my old friend whom I admire very much.

These talks were long because their topic has nuances and aspects that are very diverse and had to be thoroughly analyzed to reach an exact agreement, not only in regard to interpretation but in an effort to concur in procedure, which is what we sought. We obtained these results and the traditional petroleum relations between Mexico and Venezuela -- to refer to them specifically -- were not only strengthened, but enriched, as you may have surmised from the joint declaration that the oil ministers of Mexico and Venezuela will hand out and comment on for you. [end recording]

Returns From Cancun

PA010310 Paris AFP in Spanish 0213 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] Caracas, 31 Jan (AFP) -- President Jaime Lusinchi arrived in Caracas tonight from Cancun, after holding an oil summit meeting with his Mexican counterpart Miguel de la Madrid. Upon arriving at the Maiquetia International Airport the chief of state went to the Miraflores Palace.

The Mexican and Venzuelan presidents signed an agreement calling for a meeting of the Cartagena Consensus, which groups the most indebted countries in the region, and the creation of a bilateral oil cooperation commission, among other points.

Lusinchi's arrival in Caracas coincided with Mexico's announcement of a drop in its light export oil prices by approximately $4 per barrel, retroactive to 1 January.

HEAVY EXPORT CRUDE OIL PRICE REDUCED BY $3

PA020120 Paris AFP in Spanish 1902 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] Caracas, 1 Feb (AFP) -- Venezuela cut the price of its heavy export crude oil, retroactive to last 27 January, $3 per barrel, Acting Energy and Mines Minister Hernan Anzola announced today. Venezuelan heavy crude was valued at $20 to 21 per barrel, and now it will cost $17 to $18.

There is no uniform price as Venezuela exports many types of crude oil, and the price adjustments involve some 14 types of heavy crude. The measure effects 500,000 of the 1.4 million barrels daily of crude and products of different qualities that Venezuela expects to sell in 1986. The decision will fix the price of the Venezuelan heavy crudes to the Mexican "Maya" type, its price having suffered a similar reduction last Friday.

In the group of some 50 crude types and products that Venezuela exports, today's drop will involve $1.06 in the average price per barrel, estimated at $24.50.

The country will lose $475 million due to this price cut, Anzola said.

CONSALVI MEETS WITH TRINIDAD FOREIGN MINISTER

PA312155 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Errol Mahabir, foreign minister of Trinidad and Tobago, is in our country discussing aspects of the bilateral relations between Venezuela and that Caribbean island. The talks were held at the Foreign Ministry where Mahabir and his retinue explained their viewpoints on bilateral treaties, which include the fishing agreement and the initiatives in the trade, energy, agricultural, and other areas to the Venezuelan representatives. Venezuelan Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi told Mahabir that Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela are two Caribbean countries willing to work for the benefit of the best regional interests, which are somewhat complex and subject to the temptations of foreign influences that are different and incompatible with local values.

At this time, Mahabir is in Guyana where he will visit the Raul Leoni Dam and the Guri Hydroelectric Plant.

DE LA MADRID, LUSINCHI EXTEND CANCUN MEETING

FL311228 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0455 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Cancun, Mexico, 30 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The Mexican and Venezuelan Presidents, Miguel de la Madrid and Jaime Lusinchi, have extended their stay here, and will not issue a joint communique on their position regarding the present oil market crisis until tomorrow.

The official spokesman of the office of the president, Manuel Alonso, said that several points of the joint agreement, which is being referred to as the Cancun accord, have already been discussed. The ministers of finance and energy and mines, and the directors of the state petroleum enterprises of both countries are participating in the talks, which are bing held in Cancun's Maya House.

The two chief executives are studying the oil market crisis and the impact it may have in the already huge foreign debts of Venezuela and Mexico.

Joint Communique

FL311821 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Jan 86

[by Agustin Pradillo, special correspondent]

[Text] Cancun, Mexico, 31 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Today, the presidents of Mexico and Venezuela announced here that an urgent meeting of the Cartagena consensus will be held to analyze the effects of the oil market crisis and said that isolated decisions of oil-producing countries are seriously hurting Mexico and Venezuela.

After the meeting, which began on Thursday, and in a joint communique, Presidents Miguel de la Madrid and Jaime Lusinchi agreed that isolated decisions of OPEC members or nonmembers have a serious effect on international economic and financial stability.

The communique indicates that the aim of the Cartagena Consensus countries' meeting is to promote necessary contacts with the governments of creditor countries, financial organizations, and the international banking community.

Likewise, they made a call to the leaders of oil-exporting countries to take measures -- within the framework of an organized plan -- that would allow matching the oil supply to real consumption demands in order to reestablish order and stability within the market.

They asserted that the oil market crisis has created an extremely unstable situation, and its consequences surpass its limited area and deteriorate the conditions of the international economy, trade, and finances.

The heads of state noted in the communique that developing countries and oil-exporting countries who have heavy foreign debt commitments are particularily hurt by the oil market crisis by having their payment capabilities seriously diminished.

They said that in addition to the deterioration of oil export income, additional burdens are placed by protectionist and restrictive trade actions in the markets of developed countries, and by real interest rates, which are unprecedentedly high.

Miguel de la Madrid and Jaime Lusinchi pointed out that measures need to be adopted to reinstate an orderly and predictable market behavior. They made this call extensive to oil-producing and consumer countries.

The agreement signed by the two heads of state indicates that the decrease of income due to this crisis is of such magnitude that it cannot be observed by domestic adjustments because it would lead to an inadmissible deterioration of the standard of living of our countries. This is why they said, that without damaging the efforts of economic reforms, which is our countries' responsibility, it is essential that effective and concrete international measures are taken in the areas of oil, trade, or finances.

The heads of state underscored that due to the instability of markets, an oil cooperation committee needs to be set up with representatives from the Mexican Energy Secretariat, the Venezuelan Energy Ministry, and the respective state enterprises to maintain exchange of information, consultation, and to reach decisions that would protect the interests of the two countries.

The two presidents made a call for OPEC to strengthen its internal unity to be able to fulfill the important role it is supposed to in order to defend the rights of oil-producing countries. They also encouraged importing countries to contribute to the oil market stabilization efforts by avoiding sharp price fluctuations that would negatively affect the balance of the world economy.

The presidents of Mexico and Venezuela, after a 10-hour working session, reasserted their position of assuming responsibility to face the current difficult situation and said they are confident that other countries will also adopt a sensible position in line with the interdependency existing in today's world.

Before the joint communique was read by Mexican Energy, Mines, and Parastatal Industry Secretary Francisco Labastida Ochoa, the Mexican president asserted that he will continue developing friendship ties between Mexico and Venezuela and to increase cooperation between the two countries. Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi indicated that the artificially created erratic situation of the oil market forced the two heads of state to hold these talks. Likewise, he expressed his admiration and respect to Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid and called him a leader of Third World countries. After expressing his apprehension to the members of the press, President Lusinchi said that with this meeting, measures can be taken to bring coinciding policies for the countries to adopt in matters of oil, foreign debt, and in the search for world peace.

PEMEX DROPS LIGHT CRUDE PRICE BY $4 PER BARREL

PA312338 Paris AFP in Spanish 2309 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Mexico, 31 Jan (AFP) -- Mexico reduced the price of its light export oil by an average of $4 per barrel, retroactive to 1 January, the state owned Mexican Petroleum (PEMEX) announced today. The average price for the month of January will be $19.75 per barrel, in contrast to $23.75 last December. PEMEX's foreign trade committee also announced the decision to continue applying the policy of flexible retroactive prices during the month of February, which will reflect the situation of the international oil market.

Petrochemical Price Reduction

FL312135 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2058 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Mexico City 31 Jan. (NOTIMEX) -- Pemex will sell its basic petrochemical products 10 and 20 percent lower than current international market prices.

Pemex sales subdivision has announced this to all its industrial clients and added that, with this, it will provide greater support so that clients can export and achieve greater competitive levels abroad.

It announced that industrialists of the manufacturing industry plastic division are working on building houses made of that material to participate in a massive housing program the Urban Development and Ecology Secretariat is developing.

Pemex also said the drop in oil prices should oe compensated by nonoil manufacture exports.

SEPULVEDA RETURNS FROM TRIP TO EGYPT, ALGERIA

PA311939 Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish 0130 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda returned to Mexico City this afternoon after an official visit to Egypt and Algeria. During his stay in Egypt, Secretary Sepulveda was received by President Husni Mubarak and Foreign Minister Butrus Ghali.

The Mexican foreign secretary opened the Third African-Latin American Cooperation Seminar, addressing the world's political and economic crisis. The seminar concluded that there is still a negative state of inertia in American-African cooperation and cooperation and appealed to governments to revitalize the efforts to promote exchanges.

One result of the visit of Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda was the creation of the mixed economic, scientific, and technical cooperation commission, which will serve to identify fields in which to establish complementary work programs.

Regarding his visit to Algeria, Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda said that its objective was to follow up on the important agreements reached by Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid during their meeting last year.

DELVALLE 29 JANUARY SPEECH ON ECONOMIC ISSUES

PA301912 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0216 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Address by President Eric Arturo Delvalle at the Palace of the Herons in Panama City on 29 January -- live or recorded]

[Text] Dear fellow countrymen: As you all know, the world's economy has been seriously upset in recent years. This situation has had dramatic consequences in the developing countries, especially in Latin America and in our country.

However, a careful analysis of the characteristics of the Panamanian economy and of the current conditions in our country shows that Panamanians do have the necessary means to both face the crisis and firmly develop the nation.

The strong faith we have in our country is not only an expression of the love we feel for it. It is also the result of a study of the true national situation and of the way the world situation is evolving.

With basis on this analysis, the government has been considering all the economic policy proposals presented by Panamanian groups and professionals, and it has been consulting with social and productive sectors interested in making the country advance.

The conclusions we have reached are a summary of the contributions of many fellow countrymen who have a common interest. Therefore, the national government has approved a plan of guidelines, objectives, and actions to develop the country based on the confidence and the certainty it has gained from the fact that many people participated in preparing these guidelines for the benefit of the nation.

The government is aware of the fact that the plan implies introducing new legal and organizational administrative measures that are directly aimed at adding dynamism and strengthening the Panamanian economy.

We have made the decision, and we have the capability to set this plan in motion because it responds to the domestic needs of the national economy. Many dispositions that were adopted in the past, and that still rule the country's economic activities, either have already accomplished their objective or have become obsolete. The international situation has changed, and therefore Panamanians must set for themselves new tasks and more important goals.

This is a realistic program that will effectively contribute to a better future for our people without surrendering to any foreign power. This is what corresponds to a people who have always known how to defend their territorial sovereignty and their right to make their own decisions and who always will place dignity above any other consideration.

We also realize that these new measures must be implemented rationally. We have evaluated how productive these measures will be, and we have made analyses to determine if they count with the understanding of the majority of the country and the sincere backing of their most important organizations and are, therefore, viable.

This program is the result of a multisectorial consensus and corresponds to the historic demands of national integration and development. It also has the sincere support of all the political parties that form part of the government, of the organizations that back these parties, and of all the structures that compose them.

One expression of the realism of this program will be the full utilization of the advantages that our geographic position provides. This will be one of the keystones of the program.

In the past, our geographic position was viewed narrowly. We were seen only as a horse trail, or a railroad line, or as a canal, always in foreign hands and always to benefit others.

Today the canal is, to a great extent, ours, and in 14 years it will be completely ours. But our territory has, because of its geographic position, many other resources, resources that are exclusively Panamanian, that we can use in many ways and very economically. The benefits derived from the canal and from all the other forms of exploitation of the geographic resources must be felt in the countryside for the benefit of the other sectors of the Panamanian economy and society, thus creating sources of employment, production, and social well-being in the most remote corners of the country.

Although our geographic position has given the Panamanian economy advantages over and characteristics that are different from those of sister nations, this program is not based on a point-of-transit resource aspect, but on a program of national integration and independence.

The program's most important objectives are to strengthen and consolidate the state, to attend to the needs of Panamanians, to train them so that the country's economy functions with a basis on its own interests, and to create job and social service conditions suitable to enhance our human potential, as this country's main resource is not its geographic position, but its people.

The best way to distribute wealth and opportunities is to implement a development policy that takes into consideration the needs and aspirations of the various Panamanian sectors, especially the productive sectors, thus guaranteeing the stability and peace that characterize the country.

Another objective is to strengthen the democratic institutions by making the effective participation of all Panamanians viable whenever decisions that will affect them are to be made. Another objective is to completely democratize not only government elections-related activities, but also the country's economic, social, and cultural life.

The objective is to continue working on the national territorial and economic integration under better conditions to guarantee the best possible use of the nation's resources, so that the people may be better served.

This program cannot take into consideration only current problems. It must coherently present the country's social and economic development tasks. Therefore, the program must have a medium-term approach to prepare the Panamanian nation to face the challenges of the next century. To do this, we must face the true situation as it is, with its characteristics, to search for solutions that will guarantee lasting benefits for the Panamanian majority.

History explains the characteristics of the isthmus, noting that it is an exchange and service center for world trade and that it has an economic system that technologically corresponds to its status as a crossroads. As a result of this, two-thirds of our gross national product is provided by the service economy. While other countries are moving toward developing their service sector, Panama is trying to use its dividends to develop its agriculture and industry.

The relative importance of services-exports [exportaciones de servicios] allows our exports to have greater value stability than those of countries that principally export raw materials. The prices of raw materials fluctuate, and reductions in prices gravely affect even the oil-exporting countries.

However, our services-export prices are the same in Panama as in the world economy. In addition, we have a monetary system that is directly integrated into the international monetary system, as there is no Central Bank here.

Transit-related activities, the export of services, and the monetary system compose a peculiar economic system different from those of sister nations.

Recently Panama has been offering services that we provide more efficiently than other countries: telecommunications, air-traffic, storage, oil pipelines, financial, commercial, insurance and reinsurance, re-exporting and other activities that complement the transit-of-ships-services activity and go beyond it. To this we can add the improvement of port services, the massive mobilization of containers [contenedores], the creation of an all-services port [centropuerto], and other valuable possibilities.

As a result of an aggressive state participation during the past decade, public services grew significantly. This included initiatives that are characteristic of the public sector: electrification, telephone service, aqueducts; and education, health, social security, and transport services to satisfy the local demand and to improve the country's ability to produce on other exportable items.

The development of human resources was undertaken to produce job seekers with a high level of education, health, and long life-expectancy. During this period the state created a huge economic infrastructure of great importance. To this we can add the importance and the value of the returned areas, which are near the metropolitan area -- where approximately 50 percent of the population lives -- and near the transit canal and the international services system.

These characteristics imply that the guidelines for the short- and medium-term national economic development will have to include important aspects characteristic of the nature of a transit region. The way to overcome the current situation and launch more important development projects is, necessarily, to make the best use of the advantages that our geographic position provides and use them as a pivot for more exports and the creation of new jobs.

Only by increasing the efficacy and the profitability of the international services system will we be able to secure the resources necessary for creating other sources of wealth in other areas of the country. This must be the objective of increasing our efficacy.

In the pursuit of those objectives, it is necessary to introduce some changes. However, neither the nation's present situation nor our own convictions would recommend, in any case, an adjustments policy that could affect the socioeconomic development already achieved. Instead, there must be a revision of our economic policy in order to adapt it to the changing national and international situations. By the same token, that change cannot be taken as a ban on the state participating as manager in the national economy but as a change in the approach and the forms of participation.

The present financial circumstances are different; therefore, the solutions we propose must be different and new. In that respect, it is important to remember that one of the circumstances that have modified the situation was the change suffered by the conditions in which Panama and the other Latin American nations contracted loans for development in the past. The sudden rise of interest rates on previous debts has been one of the factors that brought about the present crisis, because it implies a continued and onerous export of public funds that go to the creditors.

Another of the nation's serious problems in unemployment, which has increased in the past decade. Never before had we experienced such heavy growth in the economically active population, at a rate of four percent annually. In the seventies, some 13,000 people became active yearly, while now that figure exceeds 22,000 annually.

This was resolved in 80 percent of the cases with the employment created in the public sector. Besides, the pressure on the employment market was reduced by the increased school attendance. Now this is no longer feasible.

Due to the urgent need to generate employment, this problem is neither academic nor will it be resolved with a simple economic adjustment. The lack of growth is reflected in the lack of properly remunerated jobs. Because of this, the matter is no longer economic, but has become a socio-political problem that, if not duly solved, could in the future become a menace to social peace.

The changing financial circumstances and the growing unemployment problem constitute three big global objectives of our economic policy: to generate employment and reduce the social dropout levels; to create conditions for the self-sustained growth of the Panamanian economy, mainly through the use of our own resources and, particularly, by the better use of the reverted resources; and to maintain the advances already made in social service, as investments in Panamanian human assets.

The economic improvement thus obtained helps strengthen Panamanian nationality. This, in turn, will help strengthen the democratic institutions and the channels for citizens' participation. A nation thus strengthened by that integral development could meet with determination and courage the international role it must assume.

The above means in global terms that the development policy will be oriented to strengthen the traditional activities and, besides, to avail itself of the absolute and relative advantages the country has, such as its geographical position, its services structure, and its function in commercial transit.

In view of the state's financial conditions and under the present circumstances, in the coming years economic policy will place greater emphasis on the private sector, for local and foreign investment. However, it must also be understood as a private activity as the development of business activities with a minority state capital intended to maintain its participation in profitable activities, to benefit from its resources, and to improve administrative efficiency for the purposes of the economic policy we recommend. Therefore, the concept of private activity will be broader than the traditional concept.

The economic system -- whose parts must be consonant and supporting among themselves -- works as a whole. In the first place, we shall refer to the macroeconomic policies, including fiscal policy.

National public finances show an excess of expenses over revenues. The causes for this situation are known: the increase in oil prices, the withdrawal of private investment, the need to produce human resources and to create the infrastructure for development, the pressure of the working sector for wage increases, and the large increase of the real interest on the debt.

The financial policy we have designed and are carrying out to meet the above situation includes, among other aspects, the establishment of budget execution standards that will make budget control and execution procedures more rigorous.

As an example, we may recall that in 1985 we approved a 1986 budget 3 days before the end of the year.

On the other hand, this is a good occasion to remember something about which there is not the slightest doubt: There will be no massive dismissal of public employees. To this we must add that the government is particularly interested in systematizing and improving the training of public employees, and the quality of their services. Work is already underway to create a civil service and, as a first step in that direction, a draft bill has been prepared to regulate the wages in that sector.

Regarding fiscal revenues, the policy is intended to increase the relative amount of the current income in the gross national product. To do this, in tax revenue matters there is a program underway to improve collections, particularly of taxes such as the personal property transfer tax. In addition, in the decentralized sector efforts are being made to improve the application of public service tariffs and collections, particularly in the water, electricity, and communications services.

Concerning the public expenditure policy, it is being oriented to rationalize the growth of the government's overall expenditures. The rate of growth in expenditures is reduced, implying a drop in absolute levels. In some cases, this can be achieved by transferring some state activities to the private sector through sales or co-participation.

As to capital expenditures, the state investments program will give priority to maintaining the basic infrastructures of health, education, and public services such as electricity, communications, ports, railroads, and transportation. The sum of the income and expenditures policies shall result in an improvement in relative incomes and in a reduction in expenditures. This should result in an increase in current savings in the public sector to create the conditions for an increase in the state's investment capacity.

Regarding financial sources, it has been proven that the conditions prevailing in the past decade through the recycling of petrodollars will no longer be available in the eighties. Therefore, regarding commercial operations, emphasis must be placed on the development of specific projects that are profitable and self-financing. In order for the state to invest in the infrastructure, it will have to continue to resort to long-term conventional credits for development from international organizations. In addition, the state must take advantage of direct country-to-country financing possibilities that are partially associated with the supply of goods and services, but only when this involves projects that respond to the specific needs of and are advantageous for our nation.

Regarding the refinancing of the existing debt, the commercial debt -- which represents almost half of our overall foreign debt -- must be reorganized in longer terms and at lower interests in the next refinancing efforts.

As to state participation in the economy, it can always resort to the mixed enterprises structure that allows it to participate in the country's economic development. In a similar fashion, the state has many resources in assets and capital goods. Its contribution through them in commercial operations as well as in the granting of concessions will allow the state to maintain its patrimonial participation without it becoming the sole guarantor of the economic activity being carried out.

Within a general context, in the medium-term, state policy is designed to increase the private sector's relative participation within the economy. The state will maintain its social role of being the supplier of infrastructure and basic services such as health, education, public utilities, electricity, water, and telephones. In addition, it will strengthen the efficiency of its administrative procedures.

Regarding the balance of payments, we have already said that due to its monetary structure and the nature of our main exports, Panama has special conditions that allow it to have more stability in this balance of payments. However, this does not allow us to underestimate the importance of our traditional exports. This is the reason for the emphasis and support the government will continue to give its policy of promoting exports. This was reaffirmed with the creation of the National Investments Council and the Panamanian Foreign Trade Institute. These two agencies promote exports through new investment and support for national exportable production.

Canal traffic is an important potential market for exports. Good use of it should result in an increase in nontraditional exports, thereby permitting the creation of more jobs and more efficient use of local resources.

In addition, this calls for strengthening transportation to and from Panama and for the various means of transportation and an all-services port [centro puerto] to play a very important role. The state will exploit this resource through the granting of concessions. A similar idea is applicable to international air traffic. The possibilities of joint investments between local and foreign investors are valuable for the development of nontraditional exports. This will complement the investment of foreign capital and technology with local resources and labor.

Administratively speaking, the state will continue to promote the country in efforts such as increasing the revenues that stem from tourism. Panama has a historical mission as a place of transit, but it also has a great potential as a place of destiny, as a site of recreation, and as the ideal conclave for all kinds of international meetings. The government will implement an effective policy to reach these goals. In addition, direct foreign investments that permit the compensation of more traditional financial sources that are generally used to cover capital accounts in the balance of payment will be increased.

In regard to the banking and financial sector, it must be said that the monetary system, which is closely linked to the balance of payments, will remain in its present form. The growth of the banking sector in our country must be strengthened with the development of a stock market, as well as with the addition of financial organizations other than those already in existance, in order to further develop the financial center. This will involve the investment of capital goods and financial resources. The banking center established in Panama has reached such a level of maturity that in the future its growth will depend on the development of new financial methods, diversification of the services they provide, and the incorporation of long-term financing for securities and capitals, as well as their incorporation into the insurance and reinsurance system. This policy is designed to keep the system open, increasing the benefits of our monetary structure to an optimum, and developing greater physical use of our geographic position. This will result in greater demand and in more benefits from the financial services that support it. In this regard, they are very closely related.

All the policies for economic growth that were mentioned will be successful to the extent that they generate enough jobs to absorb the economically active population. In Panama, a lack of growth has aggravated the problem of migration from rural to urban areas, lowered true salaries, and given rise to an informal, masked unemployment sector. This places pressure on family income, particularly when fewer adults support more adolescents with worrisome consequences.

The objectives of the labor and employment policy should do the following:

Keep the climate of peace that marks labor-management relations.

Guarantee the achievements of the labor movement -- namely, the workers right to form unions and strike, the obligatory withholding of union dues, economic independence, collective contracts, adequate labor conditions, and similar rights.

Raise the productivity of Panamanian workers. For this, mechanisms to reduce the cost of labor as opposed to the capital factor will be established. This includes the creation of incentives for production and efficient distribution of the work force.

Lead to speedier labor decisions. In turn, this entails a reduction in the cost of labor-management procedures and, generally speaking, lower production costs.

Create better conditions for more jobs through other possibilities that, although they do not represent a complete solution for the problem, lower the social pressure generated by it until the economy reaches higher growth and job absorption rates.

In general, methods will be established to lower the true cost of creating each new job. Regarding this, the labor regulations that deal with piece work and rural work, particularly those areas in which small enterprises are at a disadvantage compared to the larger ones, must be revised.

Taking into consideration the relative importance of the services sectors and the fact that Panama is a maritime country, it has been observed that the labor code provisions for work at sea -- although they have been formulated within the general spirit of the legislation -- do not completely fit the needs of a country like ours whose merchant navy potential is important.

To reconsider this is vital for the long-term training of the personnel who will take upon themselves the responsibility of operating the Canal when Panama assumes control of it in 1999.

In addition to the previous macroeconomic considerations, we must outline several sector policies.

The objectives of the agricultural and livestock policy will be:

To increase the sector's productivity in order to be able to lower the cost of the family market basket.

To reduce the flow of people from rural to urban areas. This will be attained through greater development of rural activities.

To increase the sector's efficiency and productivity and to reduce imports without entering areas in which we are not truly competitive. Similarly, we must increase the supply of agricultural and livestock products suitable for export.

To strengthen the role played by agricultural and livestock research not only by beefing up its institutional aspects, but also by orienting this research toward an increase in productivity through the generation of improved corn and sorghum seeds and the better handling of livestock. In addition, and with institutions in the sector, we must transfer this technology to producers.

To strengthen unions through better education, productivity, and the ability to make better efforts.

To legalize land holding through the elimination of barriers on the issuance of title deeds. This refers particularly to small farmers. In this way, there will be more private participation in the sector's activities. Small farmers will have greater participation in the market, thus improving their credit status.

To develop an irrigation program for small- and medium-sized producers and cooperatives to increase their production.

To foster agricultural and livestock credit through financial agencies in the private and state sectors. Measures will be taken to promote private bankers' interest in the agricultural and livestock sector.

To promote the export of meat products, we have eliminated restrictions on meat exports and will continue to promote the direct export of seasonal fruits. In addition, we will broaden the program to export vegetables.

In keeping with this policy, we will amend the legislation currently in force that specifies the obligation to substitute agricultural and livestock imports at all costs, and will instead establish another aimed at increasing efficiency and production to satisfy the local market and to promote exports. In cases where replaceable imports are involved, this requisite will only be applied when productivity conditions warrant it.

To increase the sector's productivity, we will loosen control over product prices, inputs, and production factors -- including labor as I pointed out earlier -- by decreasing subsidies to producers. First, we must correct distortions that prevent price incentives from reaching producers in an adequate manner and from being diluted in the commercialization chain. In this regard, the sector's price system has not turned out to be an efficient channel to determine allocation of resources due to price distortions along the commercial channel. To that end, we will establish a process to adjust prices according to productivity increases and the reduction of middleman costs, and when necessary, to a combination of both factors. The price policy for the sector will not be rigid throughout the process nor through its application. Possible differences will involve specific cases and products.

As for our forests, we will reinforce institutions tasked with reforestation and protection, especially in priority areas, such as the hydrographic basin of the Panama Canal. We will issue legislation to promote rational use of our forests.

As for commercialization, we will improve the purchasing system of the Agricultural and Livestock Marketing Institute to eliminate negative elements resulting from bidding to buy imported grains, and to ensure that imports will be made at the most advantageous price possible. On the domestic market, beginning with the 1985-1986 harvest the institute will not participate as an intermediary in the production of rice. Price will be established through the participation of producers and distributors.

As for the industrial sector, the objectives of our policy are as follows:

To improve the productivity of the system and increase competitiveness in the sector.

To create the conditions leading to a sustained reactivation of manufacturing production and, at the same time, achieve a sustained increase in the use and production of manufactured exports by taking advantage of the country's relative advantages and using idle plant capacity.

To reduce existing distortions in the industrial protection system and broaden the coverage of benefits to small- and medium-sized industries.

To create the necessary conditions to promote the most intensive use possible of the labor force in industrial activity.

In implementing these objectives we must keep in mind the level of development achieved by national industry and the measures that have been implemented by the main industrialized countries in this field. The conditions on the domestic market (which is small) forces us to seek new exportable products and markets. Therefore, we will give special emphasis to the promotion of industrial exports without neglecting or affecting the conditions of existing industry.

As for existing industries, our actions will be in keeping with the following policies:

We will complete the program to replace import quotas that are still in force for tariff protection.

We will amend the industrial law currently in force according to the following guidelines:

A. We will respect the existing levels of real protection except in those industries in which protection is proven to be excessive or unnecessary. We will not increase the existing real protection as productivity increases and cost reduction are achieved. The effects will be transferred to the consumer through reductions in the protection level when certain industrial production disappears. Those who wish to resume it in the future must comply with regulations covering new industrial products.

B. We will reduce incentives for the use of machinery instead of labor by establishing a more uniform system, reducing existing distortions, and through a low import tax without exception, except for those industries exporting 100 percent of their products. In a reasonable period of time we will also establish a policy regulating the import of raw material that will allow us to replace the exoneration concept with a symbolic import tariff.

C. We will create international protection mechanisms to protect national industry against unfair competition when it is confirmed that tariff barriers are not enough to prevent that situation, and to protect new industries against the unjustified importation of products it already manufactures.

D. We will establish the Official Registry of Industries under the General Directorate of Industries of the Commerce and Industries Ministry. Businesses wishing to take advantage of incentives created by the law will initially register there for up to 10 years. Those that are involved in development will initially register for up to 15 years.

The present mechanisms used to obtain certificates for taxes paid in advance will be studied with the intention of making these certificates easier to obtain, and encouraging investments and exports.

With the objective of promoting employment, the certificate for taxes paid in advance for employment will be created, which will allow employers to obtain fiscal credit in proportion to the number of jobs increased. This will be verified with the payrolls presented at the Social Security Bank. The certificate for taxes paid in advance for employment will be temporary. Efforts will be made, through specific studies, to achieve improvements in the efficiency of the systems, without the need for exaggerated protection.

With a view to the new industries, we will act in accordance with the following policies:

The new businesses or industrial products will initially enjoy a maximum tariff protection of 70 percent, which will be reduced to 40 percent within 7 years. No new business or industrial product can exceed, under any circumstances, the elements established here.

Industries dedicated 100 percent to exports will be 100 percent free of import duty, contributions, taxes, customs duty, Personal Property Transfer Tax, income tax on profits -- (except extractive industries or those that exploit the country's natural resources) -- export taxes, sales taxes, production taxes, taxes on capital or the firm's assets, except taxes on licenses, real estate, or fuel.

It is also necessary to establish the country's policies regarding the full use of our geographic position. As is well known, this Panamanian natural resource has played and will continue to play a main role in the country's economic development. Aware of this reality, the government will emphasize the full use of our geographic position, whose central axis is the interoceanic canal.

The potential development of our geographic position includes projects such as the Center - Port; the use of the reverted areas for industries, trade, and housing; investments to improve the present Canal; studies to establish the most viable alternatives for the Canal's future, as well as other transportation activities; the possibility of creating a regional health center; as well as maritime service centers, aircraft repair stations, and air cargo distribution centers.

We must achieve a much more efficient plan for the development potential of the reverted lands. Within a short time a program for the proper use of the reverted areas will be prepared, including the use that will be given to housing, areas needed for industrialization and trade activities, as well as for the construction of the northern corridor, major and minor port facilities, the Arraijan highway, and a new bridge over the Canal, which will make the reverted lands more accessible and increase their value, as well as to reduce traffic on the Bridge of the Americas.

Legislation will be initiated to allow the sale of homes in the reverted areas. The achievements made will be consolidated and areas of minor development such as tourism will be promoted, as well as the conventions center and the International Airport. A master plan will be established for the development of the reverted areas. The existing transportation system (railroad and ports) will be improved so they can operate at competitive prices. The Canal's future will be established by studies that will be carried out for this purpose. To achieve these objectives, the following measures will be adopted: The proper use of the reverted areas represents the country's political responsibility locally as well as internationally. Every action should be aimed at maintaining the efficient operation of the interoceanic path that will be reverted to Panama in the year 2,000.

For this, we will contract for a study that will allow us to develop the technology for the appraisal of these areas, since these areas are a unique case in the field of property appraisal. We will develop a plan for the protection of the Canal's hydrographic basin and will immediately establish the duties of the forest rangers.

Regarding the future of the Canal we must plan for the following:

We will draft a plan to assume the administration of the Panama Canal in the year 2000, harmoniously abiding by the Torrijos-Carter Treaties and developing a growing participation of Panama in the administration of the Canal. We will negotiate the widening of the Culebra Cut and other investments that are necessary to maintain and expand the efficiency and usefulness of the current Canal.

In matters regarding the development of activities related to the Panama Canal the following will be established: Through the bilateral commissions, we will promote the preferential use of national goods and services by the Panama Canal Commission as well as by the U.S. Armed Forces stationed in the area of the Canal. We will implement a plan to grant the private enterprise offering services related to the transit of the Canal the right to provide these services, such as the sale of fuel, motorboat, and towing services, and others. Other areas that merit much attention include the establishment of a policy regarding the Panamanian public administration. The goals to be fulfilled in the area of public administration will be to increase its efficiency, rationalize the operation costs, and establish an administrative career based on merit. To achieve these goals we have already adopted several measures and we are drafting an administrative action plan.

In the guidelines we have established for our budget plan we have included aspects aimed at strengthening the control of the budget and implementation procedures, including guidelines regarding the monthly cashbox flow by entity. As a rule, all financial adjustments will be made by the institution rather than allowing global adjustments in which the savings of the efficient entities are transferred to the non-efficient entities to cover their deficits.

In addition, we will establish an automatic deduction plan per agency to resolve the financial problem caused by the yearly payments to the IRHE [Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification], INTEL [National Institute of Telecommunications], and IDAAN [Institute of National Aqueducts and Sewers].

The government is interested in reinforcing the training of government employees and at the same time it is working on the development and promotion of the administrative career. We have presented a bill to standardize the wages of the public sector as a first step toward the promotion of the administrative career based on a merit system. When the studies regarding the administrative and financial aspects of certain public entities, such as the IRHE, INTEL, and National Port Authority are completed, steps will be taken aimed at reducing the additional charge that these entities are imposing on the productive activities.

One of the main problems that the National Government is facing is the one regarding Social Security's financial situation. In the short-term this represents a current deficit problem because it is not receiving the second payment of the 13th month wages. The strengthening of this institution is a process that will take several years. The government will adopt all of the measures necessary to strengthen the Social Security Fund.

The integrated health system has proven positive, however. It calls for certain guidelines so that each entity within the sector will have established duties and financial responsibilities. In this manner, we will be able to achieve control in carrying out plans and in programming future budgets in a rational manner.

Regarding the transportation sector, we will follow an intensive mid-term policy to maintain the state's infrastructure. The state has built a broad network of roads for the production sector: these roads must be given the appropriate maintenance to avoid making the same investment twice. Nevertheless, we also have problems concerning urban transportation, which represents one of the most difficult problems to be solved in metropolitan areas.

Regarding international transportation, a better use of the airport's infrastructure will require the development of a cargo-handling center, not as an exclusive state activity, but in association with the private sector. This could also lead to other activities in the transportation sector. This also requires the establishment of a maintenance center for aircraft.

In the education sector, the country demands -- without any more delays -- the adoption of an overall, modern, scientific, and democratic solution that is strongly linked to reality and the moral and production goals of the Panamanian nation and the modern world. It is necessary to adopt the necessary measures for solving this situation in the best possible way and without delay.

Seeking to counter all of the problems, we have already begun talks with international financial organizations and the last mission that visited them, which comprised distinguished figures from the country's economic and political sector and achieved substantial progress toward an agreement that will be based on the proposals presented by the Panamanians. Our interest in presenting the Panamanian proposal at these financial organizations is aimed at achieving a positive solution to the foreign debt problem and safeguarding national interests.

Everything we have discussed is based on feasible proposals that have been presented over the last months by all of the sectors that are interested in our country's welfare, which is all the Panamanian people's welfare. We urge all of you to join us in this common effort because the homeland's present and future, and the destiny of future generations are at stake. We have the responsible support of all the government parties and we urge the opposition parties and organizations to do likewise.

It is morally and politically correct and beneficial for all the country's political opposition sectors to remain active, because this corresponds to a healthy and active democratic society. However, the Panamanian nation's interests should prevail above everything and we are all responsible for the country's development. We cordially invite these respected citizens to participate in this effort to overcome the crisis, strengthen our democratic institutions, and develop our country.

Nevertheless, certain delirious minorities exist in addition to the civic opposition, and they prefer to see the nation's society destroyed first rather than contribute to the solution of its general problems. We do not expect comprehension from them because they play an anti-national role. However, we do warn them that even though we are and will always be willing to hold constructive talks with all real Panamanian sectors, we will also deal with those small destructive groups with all the firmness of our Constitution and laws. In times of crisis the people demand appropriate solutions and we cannot afford to coddle those who stubbornly try to undermine possible solutions in their efforts to bring greater calamities to the country.

In addition to issuing this cordial invitation and firm warning, I also want to state the national government's recognition of the large number of political parties, civic and national organizations, professional organizations, labor unions, and distinguished persons who have been contributing the various projects and plans that have provided guidance for the preparation of this action and the development program. I want to extend this recognition to the Defense Forces, and their commander, who have persistently continued to exert themselves in order to positively contribute to the country's democratization and the strengthening of its constitutional institutions, since this represents the appropriate framework for renewing our faith that we will soon overcome all current problems.

To conclude, I wish to add that these guidelines for the Panamanian economic policy represent the road to be followed during the next years. Even though we are confronting grave problems, we will not convoke special Legislative Assembly meetings because we want the Panamanian people to know that we will always act without surprising anyone and the program will be adequately publicized in due time.

The important thing to bear in mind is that now, more than ever, current circumstances demand that the Panamanian family collaborate in solidarity to counter the century's challenges with a real national spirit, thus opening the doors of our homeland to the new millennium when we will have full sovereignty over our country. If the previous decade was characterized by the fulfillment of our goals concerning the geographic and political integration of our republic, the current challenge demands that all the Panamanians fully support the state and seek to achieve their own ideals and develop our national economy for the overall development and self-determination of mankind and, consequently, for our own society. We will develop these programs based on these general guidelines to achieve our goal. I will personally exert myself to the utmost so that these goals are fulfilled, based on the government's capacity, for the country's welfare as a whole.

Thank you.

BELIZE

PUP CONVENTION CALLS FOR ESQUIVEL'S RESIGNATION

FL010024 Belize City THE BELIZE TIMES in English 26 Jan 86 p 2

[Text] The national convention of the People's United Party, which took place in Belize City on Jan 19, 1986, approved policies for the new phase of the Belizean revolution. These policies applied by a PUP government would set Belize again on the right course to development and progress.

The economic policies would have avoided the loss of revenue which has occurred by the closure of the Libertad sugar factory, the cancellation of the Belcast project, the issue of import permits for food that can be grown locally, and the failure to collect the right amount of stamp duty on the sale of a large tract of land sold to foreigners. These blunders have deprived the revenue of millions of dollars which would have enabled the government to pay an increase of salaries and wages. The foreign policies would return Belize to a non-aligned status which would protect Belize from the violence of the East-West confrontation by keeping Belize free of the ideological struggle. These policies would also support the efforts for a new international order so that developing countries might obtain better prices for their exports. A PUP government would defend the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Belieze as non-negotiable in seeking a settlement of the Anglo-Guatemalan dispute. It would oppose and condemn apartheid of the racist South African Government. Such policies are consonant with the PUP philosophy over the years.

The policies approved by the convention support a PUP government in its defense of Belize's Constitution by protecting the civil service, ensuring the proper use of public funds, and defending the freedoms and dignity of the Belizean citizen. There were many promises made in the last campaign which now turn out to be false promises. They were made against the sound advice of church leaders who urged candidates to avoid making unrealistic promises. These promises have come home to roost for a government which has caused the loss of millions of dollars. In the circumstances, the convention had no alternative but to call on the Esquivel government to resign and call national elections.

BRIEFS

7.300 POUNDS OF MARIJUANA SEIZED -- Police seized seven thousand three hundred & eighty-four pounds of marijuana packaged in a cylinder on Monday Jan 20, 1986. The police raid took place at the traveller's liquor refinery on the northern highway. Three people were detained and charged the day following the raid. Another person is wanted for interrogation but is said to have fled the country. [Excerpt] [Belize City THE BELIZE TIMES in English, 26 Jan 86, p 1 FL]

COSTA RICA

REPORTAGE ON NATIONAL PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

PUSC Accused of Unfair Practices

PA310429 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] The National Liberation Party [PLN] has denounced a maneuver by the Social Christian Unity Party [PUSC] in Zarcero.

Their objective in Zarcero is to confuse voters. The PLN claims that there have been phone calls from PUSC sympathizers posing as Supreme Electoral Tribunal members providing information about the electoral process that is far from correct.

According to reports from the green and white organization, a (?note) printed under the picture of the PUSC candidate that is being circulated aims to confuse PLN supporters during the campaign in Alajuela.

The PLN denounced a PUSC plan to make voters lose their cedulas [identification cards] on Sunday. According to the green and white organization, their opponents plan to infiltrate false PLN guides on election day. The guides would ask voters to show their cedulas and would then confiscate them, according to Jose Luis Urena, deputy candidate for (Lacuela), who urged his supporters not to give their identity documents to anyone.

PUSC Propaganda Banned

PA310411 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] As a result of a charge presented by the National Liberation Party [PLN], this afternoon the Supreme Electoral Tribunal [TSE] suspended the circulation of printed propaganda by the Social Christian Unity Party [PUSC]. That propaganda attributed several crimes to the PLN candidate and accused him of allegedly copying the government program of the majority opposition party. It also used offensive words that hurt the dignity and honor of Mr Oscar Arias. In the opinion of the electoral organization, this violates Article (?85) of the electoral code.

During a special session this afternoon, the TSE began to discuss a report presented by our ambassador in Mexico, Angel Edmundo Solano Calderon, on a charge presented against him by the PUSC. Magistrate Rafael Villegas Santillan said it is a very extensive document that calls for deep study. A statement in this regard will not be issued for a few more days. Our ambassador in Mexico presented the report at the request of tribunal magistrates who gave him 48 hours to present it after having been notified. According to the PUSC charge, Angel Edmundo Solano is guilty of political partiality for having participated as a speaker in a PLN meeting in Cartago.

Meanwhile, it was reported that a charge presented by the majority opposition party regarding the printing of PLN propaganda in the national printing press is still under study.

PUSC Concedes Defeat

PA030430 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0411 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] San Jose, 2 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- The Social Christian Unity Party tonight admitted its defeat in the general elections held today in Costa Rica. The elections have been won by the ruling National Liberation Party, a social democratic group, according to the partial figures provided by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal.

Ranking Social Christian leader Luis Manuel Chacon announced shortly before 2200 local time (0400 GMT) that the party had lost the elections. "The struggle is not over, however, it begins tomorrow," Chacon said.

PUSC Candidate Speech

PA030730 San Jose Cadena de Emisoras Columbia in Spanish 0455 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Speech by Candidate Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier of the Social Christian Party at the Irazu Hotel in San Jose; live or recorded]

[Text] [Words indistinct] the people that did not vote for us, who voted a little more for the other alternative which might be the best for Costa Rica. We hope that it will be best for our country. Costa Rica comes first. We have had 15 years of struggle already [words indistinct] of the many deputies.

[Words indistinct] Through those deputies we will also have the opportunity to promote a [words indistinct] for the country's interests. However, the most important thing we have contributed to the country is having been able to form this great party. [applause] We have been able to form a great party in Costa Rica, a party that [words indistinct] practically 45 or 46 percent of the votes. It managed to win in several provinces. It managed to set up a great structure. Now I will become a member of the Directorate of the party [words indistinct] to continue working.

We have had [words indistinct] for the last 4 years. Now there is less to be done in the future for our party to achieve victory. [applause, shouts] [passage indistinct] I did everything I could possibly do. There was nothing else to be done. [words indistinct] We expected to gain a majority [words indistinct] the trust of a great sector of the people. We will struggle for Costa Rica. We are in the battle between the parties. We have many elected deputies. We have many [word indistinct] elected, and we are all going to be in the struggle. [applause]

Thank you all, thank you all. All I have are words of gratitude. We have seen how everyone worked. All I have are words of gratitude. A few votes more for the other side [words indistinct] the majority of Costa Ricans. We want Costa Rica to forge ahead. We are in the trenches to struggle for Costa Rica. Long live Costa Rica. [applause]

Arias' Victory Speech

PA030700 San Jose Cadena de Emisoras Columbia in Spanish 0443 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Statement by Costa Rican President-elect Oscar Arias Sanchez, at the Corobici Hotel in San Jose -- live]

[Excerpts] I would like my first words to be of gratitude to all of you, friends, for so much trust, friendship, affection, faith, and hope placed on both Oscar Arias and Costa Rica. Exactly 1 year and 6 days ago, on 27 January 1985, I had the chance to share with many of those present here now a moment as joyous and filled with emotion as the one tonight. During an unprecedented event in the political history of this country almost 300,000 Costa Ricans showed up at the polls, and on that occasion I said that the only acceptable behavior for the winner was one of humility and magnanimity. Today, with even more reason, I again want to ask of you the same humility and magnanimity, because the victory is not only of our National Liberation Party and least of all of Oscar Arias, but is instead the victory of our democracy, the victory of our people, the victory of Costa Rica.

On that occasion, my friends, I also said: I will now consider it more important to lay bridges to unite than to build up walls to divide.

I once again tell you, exactly as I did 8 days ago at a gigantic rally held here in San Jose, that the flag we have raised for a long 38 years with legitimate pride should from now on remain in our homes. The only flag that we should raise from now on is the tricolor flag, the flag that is here in the hearts of all Costa Ricans. [applause]

Costa Rica has charted for us the course it wishes to follow and we will be impeccably loyal to that mandate. During my administration there will never be any disrespect for minorities, but neither will there ever be any faltering to separate us from the mandate of the majorities. [applause, shouts]

Those who were our adversaries during the electoral campaign have already ceased to be that and will now carry out the important task of being the opposition to the new government.

My (?good) friend, the Costa Rican listening to me on the radio, the Costa Rican I can reach at home through television, I very humbly wish to say that I do not have answers to all the problems, that in the horizon we have large challenges which demand new responses. We will have to find responses to these challenges together. It is not the exclusive task of the ruler; it is a shared responsibility between the ruler and those ruled.

I have made commitments, commitments to my principles, with my conscience, with the fundamental values that we inherited from the past. My only commitment is to my people and among those people, to the neediest and humblest ones, to the ones in need of the most help. My only loyalty is to the homeland.

Arias News Conference

PA030710 San Jose Cadena de Emisoras Columbia in Spanish 0503 GMT 3 Feb 86

[News conference by Costa Rican President-elect Oscar Arias Sanchez at San Jose's Corobici Hotel, live -- broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Moderator] Carlos Jimenez of Radio Monumental.

[Jimenez] Mr President-elect, this campaign has [words indistinct]. Do you believe the Costa Rican people attained a level of political maturity? Your opponents even used rude epithets against you and members of this administration [words indistinct] the elected president.

[Arias] Everything in life is relative. We might have found that the campaign was too hard or bitter [words indistinct]. That is why I want to compare this campaign to electoral processes in other countries. When we do compare it to electoral processes in other countries, we realize that this was a very smooth campaign. I do not believe we must get upset. Sometimes passion dominates reason. The truth is, dear friends, that at the end of this task and this day, we must feel extremely proud of being Costa Rican for this [word indistinct] feast. The truth is that not a drop of blood has been spilled, there has not really been any violence. We have a lot to be thankful for because we are a privileged people who can choose their leaders freely, something that other peoples in this continent are unable to do.

However, it is important to find ways to make the electoral process shorter and less expensive. This will be a priority of my administration. We have already examined a bill drafted by the Legislative Assembly. It was approved in commission. If it does not become law within the next 3 months, it will be extremely important to make it a law by May.

[Moderator] Guillermo Arana of APN.

[Arana] Mr President, will your foreign policy, particularly with regard to Nicaragua, follow President Monge's policy? If not, what changes will there be? What will be your first action for peace, which was one of your main areas of emphasis during the campaign?

[Arias] The overwhelming majority of Costa Ricans want peace. We -- as you foreign correspondents can see -- are a country that was forged by lawyers and teachers. [Words indistinct] That is why the most important legacy Mr Jose Figueres [former president of the Republic] left this country was an Army-free Costa Rica. [applause] The best legacy for this young country that concerns us so much, for our children and grandchildren, for the men and women who will live in Costa Rica during the 21st century, is a country without an army. We cannot develop our economy and at the same time spend our scarce savings on armaments, [words indistinct], tanks, and aircraft. [applause] The two things are incompatible. That is why throughout the electoral campaign we said many times that the great dilemma was either rifles or bread. Today the people chose: They chose bread. [applause]

We will support all initiatives that lead to a political solution to the conflicts that are burdening Central America: a political, not a military solution. Costa Rica, as the democracy it is, must become an active agent for peace. Our hands will not tremble when we must adopt all the necessary initiatives that will lead to a lasting peace on the Central American isthmus.

[Moderator] Now the members of the foreign press will ask questions.

[Indistinct name] [Words indistinct] of Panama's Radio Chiriqui. [Words indistinct] statement for Panama.

[Arias] I wish to reiterate the Costa Rican people's desire -- and that of its new government -- to maintain the friendliest of relations, the most cordial and brotherly relations with the Panamanian Government and people.

[Moderator] MIAMI HERALD.

[Unidentified reporter] Could you tell us [words indistinct] you will change the foreign policy implemented during President Monge's administration, specifically with regard to the presence in Costa Rica and the operation from Costa Rica of the anti-Sandinist rebels, Costa Rica's relations with Nicaragua, and its relations with the United States?

[Arias] Allow me to begin with your last question. With regard to the United States, our people [word indistinct] eternally grateful for the understanding, the help, and the support the U.S. Government and people have afforded Costa Rica. [applause] We hope that that help, support, and understanding will continue and grow. With regard to Nicaragua and the neutrality policy, I want to say that when we talk about neutrality we speak with utmost sincerity and frankness, with the truth. We want to be truly neutral. This means not to tolerate, not to be complacent about the enemies of the Nicaraguan Government so that they abuse our hospitality. Costa Rica has always been a country with a great tradition of asylum. Many hemispheric leaders lived with us during the past decades. We want to preserve that beautiful tradition of granting asylum because our country has everything, including [words indistinct] any Latin American who is persecuted politically will know that he will always have a little country, a little peace of land that will always welcome him with an open heart.

[applause] However, that hospitality and asylum must not be abused. That is why when neutrality was proclaimed we were very clear that that asylum and hospitality is for those political leaders who want to receive from us and who can really hold political activities, but never military ones that might jeopardize our sovereignty. [applause]

[Moderator] Sergio Gonzalez of COLPRENSA, Colombia.

[Gonzalez] Costa Rica is one of the most [words indistinct] What will be the principal aspects of your policy in this field?

[Arias] Not wasting the bonanza that we will have in the next few years. Since to rule is to educate, as Sarmiento used to say, we must educate our 80,000 coffee producers so we will not squander the income resulting from a sudden coffee price increase. During the fat period that might result not only because of the coffee price increases, but also because of the oil price decline, we should prepare for a possible lean period. We will have to talk, seeking to convince, not defeat, using persuasion so the coffee producers will really prepare themselves for more difficult times in the future. We all know that that price increase will not be a permanent one, that production will someday increase again and prices will again decline. That is why with great seriousness and patriotism we must convince the small producers so they will prepare themselves for the difficult period that might come very soon. I am sure that Costa Ricans will understand this. I am absolutely sure that we will receive all their cooperation because it is for the very benefit of that invaluable national industry -- our 80,000 coffee producers. [applause]

[Second unidentified reporter] Mr President, will your government support the Contadora Group in order to achieve peace in Central America?

[Moderator] [Words indistinct] the question please?

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] "The World at the Moment" newscast.

[Arias] Comrade, as I said earlier, we will endorse any initiative in search of a peaceful solution for Central America. If it comes from Contadora, good; if it comes from any other group or country, good. [applause]

[Moderator] The colleague from Sweden now has the floor.

[Reporter] Mr President [title as heard] you have just said that democracy is dialogue and that the source of the initiative is unimportant. My question, therefore, is: Are you willing to hold a dialogue with Nicaragua's President Ortega?

[Arias] We will do it [?but) in this regard we have been extremely clear. It is President Monge's policy and I expect to continue it: [applause] It will be done, but only in a multilateral context, not a bilateral one. [appluse]

[Moderator] The last... [applause] the last response will be for (Gaetano Pandolfo) of the newspaper (?UNIVERSIDAD).

[Name indistinct] University students gave you total support during your electoral campaign. It is hoped that tonight you will have a message of hope (?in view of) the budget problems. [applause]

[Arias] (?I know), friend Pandolfo. (?I know very well about) the response of the university community, of that army of Costa Rica's 70,000 university students, which honors us.

I know very well about the support I received. I only hope that on 8 May 1990, none of those university students who trusted Oscar Arias will regret having voted for me today. [applause, shouts] [words indistinct] And after politics I aspire to return to that very university classroom. Therefore, a very fraternal greeting and my eternal gratitude to Costa Rica's university students for trusting Oscar Arias. [applause]

NICARAGUAN AMBASSADOR ACCUSED OF PERJURY

PA312022 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] The Nicaraguan ambassador has been accused of perjury. Yesterday, Joaquin Vargas Gene, director of LA REPUBLICA, filed suit against Nicaraguan Ambassador Leonor Arguello at the 3rd Court of Investigations for alleged perjury. This is a countersuit to the one filed by the diplomat in connection with a counterfeit letter that she allegedly sent to former President Jose Figueres. In this connection, Francisco Castillo, the ambassador's lawyer, pointed out that the lawsuit on the counterfeit letter has not yet been resolved, and yesterday's suit is contingent upon it. In addition, the ambassador has diplomatic immunity, which only her government can cancel, and her statements to the courts concerned objective matters such as the forging of her signature.

EL SALVADOR

DUARTE REITERATES WILLINGNESS FOR DIALOGUE

PA010413 San Salvador Television Educativa in Spanish 1230 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Interview with President Jose Napoleon Duarte by unidentified reporters; date, place not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] [Duarte] First, I measure the political space the country has and then measure the measures I must adopt at a specific moment. I do this so that the measures will be within the political space and prevent destabilizations. At a specific moment in La Palma, I felt that the political space I had was sufficient and that is why I suggest the idea of a dialogue. At that time, the gentlemen terrorists, the gentlemen guerrillas, did not understand what I said and exaggerated the problem to such a degree that the political space was decreased. Therefore, I have had to work to create the political space to resolve the problem and once again attempt to open the space for a dialogue.

In the meantime, other sectors have also reduced the political space. I am sure all of you (?are aware of this). All of the terrorism carried out until now, for example, the destruction of pylons that have left many areas without electricity, and the fact that this destruction has forced us to ration (?electricity), has also reduced the political space. Therefore, what I must do is open the spaces for each of them. Therefore, at this moment I cannot add more things into the space we have. When the economic crisis has been overcome, and once we achieve an economic initiative, we must then determine what to do within the next political space.

[Question] Sir, this political phenomenon and the economic crisis you have mentioned are caused by the guerrillas destruction, their attack on the economic basis of the country. Can't the two aspects become one in an attempt to resolve the military and economic problem?

[Duarte] No. What I am confronting are chronic problems in the economy, not additional problems created by the guerrillas.

The economic problem includes a maladjustment of the balance of payments. This is due to a decrease in revenue and an increase in expenditures. The war problem affects this economic problem; however, its effect is relatively minimal because the economic problem is much greater. We are confronting a structural problem and not a circumstancial problem.

You have asked me a question that would imply including the circumstantial problem of the guerrillas within the economic package. This is why I am making the fiscal changes. I am doing it to cover the circumstantial problem created by the cost the war represents.

[Question] You said you are working on the dialogue issue. How? Is it possible the dialogue will be renewed some time this year?

[Duarte] No. Once again we must look for the political space. I have already told them [guerrillas] that if they want to discuss peace then I am willing to discuss it. However, I am not willing to discuss war or a tactical dialogue. I am not willing to hold a solely propagandistic dialogue. What I am seeking is an honest and sincere dialogue that will respect the Constitution and the democratic state, and allow all the sectors to join the national life. This is what I have always said. Why? Because no political space is needed for this, because democracy itself includes the decision to dialogue and to dialogue with all sectors even those subversive sectors that wish to search for peace.

There is something that is very interesting. Many have talked; many have gone to the headquarters and asked for their safe-conduct. There are many who have even surrendered their weapons. Today they are living peacefully in the country. There are hundreds upon hundreds of former guerrillas who are living in the country peacefully today; they are no longer living with the anxiety of being in the mountains and ensuring all of the problems that living in the mountains represents. Many of them have already adopted decisions. We have the Catellano [not further identified] case; there are politicians who have adopted decisions and who have put aside the process of violence. Little by little they are becoming aware of the fact that violence is not the solution. The people know that violence is not the solution and that peace is the only solution. But for peace to be achieved, there must be a will for peace.

[Question indistinct]

[Duarte] I accept criticism; however, I cannot accept intransigent attitudes that could destabilize the country. [words indistinct]

OCHOA PEREZ, 8 ARMY COMMANDERS TRANSFERRED

PA020216 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0130 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] San Salvador, 1 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- A total of nine military chiefs were removed from their commands in the Salvadoran Army, according to a general order.

Through an official communique, the Army reports that the transfer of the military chiefs are routine changes carried out in the Armed Forces personnel cadres.

One of the most significant changes is that Colonel Sigifredo Ochoa Perez, until recently commander of the 4th Infantry Brigade, headquartered in El Paraiso, in the northern Chalatenango Department, has now been appointed Salvadoran military attache in Washington.

Ochoa Perez, considered as one of the most outstanding military commanders of the counterinsurgency struggle, had some differences with the government at the end of December last year, due to the Christmas truce. President Jose Napoleon Duarte accepted a 10-day truce during Christmas and New Year's as requested by the Catholic Church, which consisted of the suspension of all offensive operations on the part of the Armed Forces. Meanwhile, Col Ochoa said at the time that his troops would not stop the counterinsurgency operations from 24 December 1985 to 2 January 1986 because he had not received such an order.

In January 1983, Col Ochoa, at the time commander of the Military Detachment 2 of Sensuntepeque, disobeyed orders from General Jose Guillermo Garcia, who was then defense minister. On that occasion, Ochoa demanded the resignation of Gen Garcia, with whom he disagreed on the way he was conducting the war.

Lieutenant Colonel Gilberto Rubio will replace Ochoa Perez, as commander of the 4th Infantry Brigade.

Rubio, commander of Military Detachment 3, headquartered in La Union, will be replaced by Lieutenant Colonel Guillermo Alfredo Benavides.

Benavides, commander of the Antiguerrilla Warfare General Ramon Belloso Battalion, will be replaced by Lieutenant Colonel Jose Humberto Gomez, who was the National Guard assistant director.

Colonel Jose Dionisio Hernandez, commander of Military Detachment 6 of Sonsonate, will be the National Guard new assistant director. Colonel Benjamin Ramos will be the new commander of Detachment 6.

Col Ramos, commander of Detachment 1, headquartered in Chalatenango, will be replaced by Lieutenant Colonel Natividad de Jesus Caceres, currently Treasury Police assistant director.

Colonel Lisandro Zepeda, who held an administrative post in the Armed Forces General Staff, will be the new assistant director of the Treasury Police.

Colonel Carlos Angel Aviles, of the Armed Forces Joint General Staff, has been appointed military attache in Honduras.

The Salvadoran Army reiterated that the changes carried out in the Armed Forces commands are routine.

REGIME TO CENSOR BROADCASTS; SUBVERSION CITED

PA021328 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 31 Jan 86 pp 2, 70

[Text] During a press conference yesterday, Culture and Communications Minister Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes said: We will not permit messages that encourage subversion and coups.

In order to reorient the news media's information policy in the country, the minister said that messages to be broadcast over radio and television will be reviewed to avoid illegal actions masked as legal ones.

To reach an accord as to how information should be handled in a state of war, the Culture and Communications Ministry has invited representatives of the Salvadoran Association of Broadcasters, ASDER, and other sectors to give all possible cooperation in this regard.

Rey Prendes said that he would first of all appeal to all political parties and other organized groups in the Salvadoran society to ponder this and respect the liberties in force in a democratic regime. He also said: We accept criticism, but we will not permit outrages to our tolerance by the broadcasting of messages that incite people to subversion, violence, and the ousting of the legally established government.

Noting that dialogue has not been dismissed as a means to find a solution for violence in the country, Rey Prendes said that meeting or an accord with guerrillas to humanize the conflict, seek peace, and keep democracy is not impossible. He said, however, that there are serious deterrents to this caused by the objectives being sought by the guerrillas and the rift between the FDR and the FMLN. He added: The government is willing to continue a dialogue for peace anywhere in the world without making it a piece of propaganda.

The official reiterated his appeal to the guerrilla groups to join the democratic system. He said: We can work with the FDR and invite it to participate in an election process. We can discuss many things with the FMLN, like the Panama accords. He concluded: This means that a meeting is not impossible -- through the mediation of the church -- to humanize the conflict and clear the panorama, provided they keep the objectives in sight and join the democratic process.

The minister feels confident that the economic measures will attain their objectives. Otherewise, other, perhaps more powerful measures will have to be implemented. He indicated that the government has received the cooperation of all the democratic reactivation of the country's future. He asserted: Those who disagree, criticize, and threaten the government could cause the implementation of other economic measures of greater social effect.

The official stressed his confidence that no protest by the subversive groups will influence the people, who trust the democratic system and the government's actions to defend the people and resolve the economic crisis.

GUATEMALA

CEREZO WELCOMES 'ALLEGED' FALL OF HAITI'S DUVALIER

PA312311 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2205 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Guatemala City, 31 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Today Christian Democratic President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo expressed his solidarity with the Haitian people and his "satisfaction over the fall" of President-for-Life Jean-Claude Duvalier.

After holding a meeting with his ministers, Cerezo Arevalo said he had learned of "an alleged toppling of Duvalier, according to reports reaching this capital, that would be welcomed because there must be no dictatorships or unpopular governments in Latin America." "The people of Haiti must move toward democracy and any such indications are welcomed," Cerezo told ACAN-EFE, reiterating that "Haitians must break out of that stagnant dynastic government." "Any action that tends to strengthen democracy in a country must be viewed with goodwill as long as it is not suppressed and can be publicly expressed so that the people will be lead by a government they truly deserve, because dictatorial regimes must become past history," the Guatemalan president, who assumed office on 14 January, added.

Haiti only has consular relations with Guatemala, and in fact, today Jackes Seidner, Haitian consul general and charge d'affairs, left the country, that diplomatic mission told ACAN-EFE.

UN RIGHTS OFFICIAL MEETS WITH CEREZO 30 JANUARY

PA311641 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] Viscount Culville de Culross, special rapporteur of the UN Human Rights Commission, met with President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo today to discuss the plans the new civilian government has to respect human rights.

After the meeting, the visitor said he came to Guatemala to observe the changes implemented in human rights affairs in the country and to learn of government plans in this regard. He praised the democratic process in Guatemala, which culminated in the inauguration of a civilian president, and congratulated Guatemalans for this achievement.

He added that in 2 weeks he will have to wirte a report for the UN Human Rights Commission and that he will meet with some ministers and other officials. He also said that he will go to the country's interior as part of his mission. He disclosed that he expects to meet with leaders of the Mutual Support Group for Human Rights in Guatemala, which is demanding information on the whereabouts of hundreds of missing people in the past few years.

The UN special rapporteur arrived in Guatemala unexpectedly last night and will leave on Sunday.

According to Foreign Ministry reports, Viscount de Culross will meet with members of the private sector. However, the Foreign Ministry warned that this information is unofficial.

SALVADORAN VICE PRESIDENT ON BILATERAL TIES

PA312257 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 30 Jan 86 p 8

[Report on an interview with Salvadoran Vice President Dr Rodolfo Castillo Claramount by unidentified EL GRAFICO correspondent in Guatemala City on 29 January]

[Text] Dr Rodolfo Castillo Claramount, vice president of El Salvador, met for 2 hours yesterday with Foreign Minister Mario Quinonez. After the meeting, he agreed to answer the following questions:

EL GRAFICO: What is the purpose of your new visit to Guatemala and your meeting with Foreign Minister Mario Quinonez?

Castillo: This is my first official visit to the new Guatemalan Government. We had a long and very interesting meeting. I have come to pay my respects and to meet him in person. After all, we will be working together very closely for a long time. Undoubtedly we plan to make many efforts to promote democracy, peace, and freedom in Central America.

EL GRAFICO: Did you discuss a particular bilateral issue?

Castillo: For instance, we discussed some measures regarding the interconnected electricity system, which is old, and needs to be modernized. Moreover, this is President Cerezo's wish. We are going to advance this greatly.

EL GRAFICO: We understand that you discussed something regarding the border between the two countries.

Castillo: Yes, we have discussed forestalling certain problems that could arise regarding the territorial border on the La Paz River, problems that the two governments want to prevent.

EL GRAFICO: Are there already some commissions for this purpose?

Castillo: Yes, I believe that these border commissions will be reactivated so that they may again consider possible problems that could be prevented.

I do not think there will be any problems because we have defined the border perfectly. However, it is always better to forestall any kind of problems that could happen.

EL GRAFICO: What is your opinion of the joint missions?

Castillo: There is an old agreement that was signed by Guatemala and El Salvador -- in an attempt to reduce labor, costs, and personnel -- to consider the possibility of establishing joint diplomatic as well as consular missions. We think that it would be most appropriate to start with consular missions, which are easier. They could be opened in locations where neither Guatemala nor El Salvador have such missions, let alone diplomatic missions.

HONDURAS

REPORTAGE ON ARMED FORCES CHIEF'S RESIGNATION

Lopez Reyes' 30 Jan Interview

PA311449 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1330 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Interview with General Walter Lopez Reyes, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, by journalist Andres Torres on 30 January -- recorded]

[Text] [Lopez Reyes] The information that I can give you at this time is that we held a meeting with the commanders of the forces and the chairman of the joint staff to analyze the situation, and I have reconsidered my resignation. Tomorrow we will be meeting with the Superior Council of the Armed Forces at 1300 to bring up some facts for the information of the command. I am logically doing this solely thinking about the well-being of my country and the institution and for the tranquillity of the people and all those who have been following the events with concern. I can tell them that everything is calm in the military institution and that it is aware that we have to fulfill our mission to the letter. We will always be ready and alert to protect our territorial integrity.

[Torres] Gen Walter Lopez Reyes, we understand that the constitutional president influenced your decision to withdraw your resignation.

[Lopez Reyes] We held an exchange of ideas this afternoon. He asked me to meet with him and we reached the conclusion that I should reconsider my decision for the benefit of everyone concerned. I am logically a subordinate because he is the general commander of the Armed Forces. I understood this concern, so I told him that we would try to resolve this matter in the best manner so that the Honduran people and the military institution would benefit.

[Torres] But have the reasons that led to your resignation disappeared?

[Lopez Reyes] Yes, Andres. I want to reaffirm what I said in the morning, that they were personal reasons. The military institution does not have any problem of, let us say, lack of discipline and corruption. The citizens should erase that from their minds. Although there might be some problems, as is natural within any organization, I do not think they are so great as to be insurmountable.

[Torres] Gen Lopez Reyes, it is strange that a 45-year-old like you would be tired. It has been said that the reasons were that some orders that you had issued were being questioned.

[Lopez Reyes] No, Andres, it was not that. We make our decisions in the meeting of commanders and they are fulfilled. We still have many places for the organization. It is at that level that we discuss the best place for each of the commanders in the Armed Forces. The tiredness to which I was referring is not physical but above all mental. I have been working intensely for the past few months and logically there were pressures that were not only work pressures but also pressures related to the job and the profession.

[Torres] The Honduran people know that you are one of the shapers of this democratic system, which is gaining strength daily. It would have been unfortunate if you had left that effort midway just when we are seeing results now.

[Lopez Reyes] Thank you, Andres. The military institution is aware that this is the best formula for Hondurans to move ahead. If with our attitude and efforts we help to strengthen the system, then we will continue on that path. We have already seen that its fruits are beneficial for internal peace and clam, and in the international arena we are seen as a nation that is slowly but surely progressing and taking steps so that our country will be a democratic nation with a system of law and order. Aware of this, we continue with that same policy, and I will be at the head of the institution until I conclude my constitutional term. We will continue to make greater efforts so that the ties between the Armed Forces and the various sectors of the civilian population will continue to be strengthened, and we will continue to remain watchful so that Honduras' interests will always be defended.

[Torres] Will there be changes in the high command of the Armed Forces, especially at the level of brigades and battalion units?

[Lopez Reyes] I cannot give you any information. We do plan some changes, but they are not major. However, everything depends on how each of the forces have their cadres organized. If the changes are advisable, they will be carried out, but if they are not, everything will stay as it is.

[Torres] So that the Honduran people will not have any doubts, it has been said that your differences are with the fifth graduating class of officers [quinta promocion de oficiales]. Is this true?

[Lopez Reyes] No, no way. None of the graduating classes have had big disputes.

It is true that there are differences of opinions, but they are not so deep as to say that one or another graduating class has differences with each other or that one class wants to impose its view. That is not true.

[Torres] I want to tell you that we are very happy that you will continue to be commander in chief of the Armed Forces because you have established a new philosophy, a new democratic spirit in the military institution. We believe that under your leadership, the Armed Forces will always walk side by side with the Honduran people. Do you have anything to add, Gen Lopez Reyes?

[Lopez Reyes] Thank you for your kind words. Believe me that they encourage us to continue with our attitude and rectitude. We will always be ready to defend our homeland's interests and we will be alongside the people to defend their interests.

[Torres] You will definitely not resign and will continue until January 1987?

[Lopez Reyes] Yes, if God permits.

[Torres] Thank you, general, and excuse us for any inconvenience.

[Lopez Reyes] That is okay, I am at your service.

[Torres] Good night.

Armed Forces Communique

PA010327 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras in Spanish 0236 GMT 1 Feb 86

["Special Armed Forces Communique" issued by the Armed Forces Public Information Directorate in Comayaguela on 31 January -- read by announcer]

[Text] The commander in chief of the Armed Forces reports the following to the public:

1. Due to strictly personal reasons, he had decided to resign but, given the commotion and unrest that arose in the country following the announcement, he has decided to disregard those reasons and continue carrying out his high responsibilities.

2. In addition, he wants to clearly and definitely state that the personal reasons he originally claimed, which correspond to the overwhelming work the post entails and which were generated by the recent conflict in the country in which the Armed Forces played a leading role, have nothing to do with any kind of pressure, much less of a military nature, or with the existence of corruption, disloyalty, discipline, or lack of professionalism in the corps.

3. His desire to retire from the Armed Forces commander in chief post never sought to affect the Armed Forces to provoke unrest in the Republic in any way.

4. He is deeply thankful for the expressions of solidarity for the Armed Forces received from the most diverse sectors of Honduran society.

5. This same day, and during a special meeting of the Armed Forces Higher Council, he explained the reasons previously stated, which were fully accepted and supported by all of the members of this top-level military organization, as clear proof that there is no conflict among the various members or officer ranks in the Armed Forces. Quite the contrary, a real strong unity prevails now more than ever among its members.

6. The Armed Forces commander in chief reiterates to the Honduran people the assurances that all of its members will seek to strictly abide by the norms established in the Constitution, serving the Republic with their highest patriotism, capabilities, and professionalism.

Comayaguela, 31 January 1986; Honduran Armed Forces Public Information Directorate

Irrevocable Resignation Accepted

PA011923 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1852 GMT 1 Feb 86

["Special Armed Forces Communique" read by the public relations director of the Armed Forces, Major Jorge Arguello -- live]

[Text] The Superior Council of the Armed Forces hereby notifies the Honduran people that at 0800 today, Saturday, 1 February it held the second special session this year that was urgently called in order to learn of the irrevocable resignation presented before this organization by Brigadier General Walter Lopez Reyes. General Lopez Reyes has resigned from his post as commander in chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, based on Article 36 Section 2, Paragraph B of the Armed Forces Law.

This resignation has been unanimously accepted and according to Article 281 of the national Constitution of the Republic and Article 35 of the Armed Forces Law: In the event that there is a definite absence of the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, the Superior Council of the Armed Forces will propose, within the following 15 days, a list of candidates from which the National Congress will elect the person who is to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term the predecessor had been elected. The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff will fill the vacancy until the replacement is elected.

Tegucigalpa, Central District, 1 February 1986

[Signed] Public Relations Directorate of the Honduran Armed Forces

Presidential Communique

PA012235 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 2145 GMT 1 Feb 86

["Press Communique" issued by the Secretariat of the Presidency, read by unidentified official -- live]

[Text] The government of the Republic hereby notifies the Honduran people of the following:

1. Early this morning, the Superior Council of the Armed Forces requested President Jose Azcona to hold a meeting with a delegation from the Council in order to report to him on an extremely urgent issue.

2. The delegation from the Superior Council of the Armed Forces was received at 1100. The delegation included the following officers: Infantry Colonel Command and Staff Graduate Leonel Aquiles Riera Lunati; Air Force Colonel Commandant and Staff Graduate Marco Tulio Rivera; Police Lieutenant Colonel Cristobal Simon; Frigate Captain Cristobal Cano; and Infantry Lieutenant Colonel Command and Staff Graduate, Mario Amaya. They reported to the president on the irrevocable resignation presented by the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, Brigadier General Walter Lopez Reyes, to the Superior Council of the Armed Forces. Copies of the resignation letter and of the special communique the Armed Forces would later announce to the Honduran people were presented to the president of the Republic.

3. The constitutional president of the Republic, Jose Azcona, acknowledged receipt of the report presented by the delegation,and said that the resignation should then follow the procedure established by the Constitution of the Republic and the corresponding law.

4. The president acknowledges the efforts of Brig Gen Walter Lopez Reyes for the improvement and professionalism of the Armed Forces, and his zeal in defending the national interests as well as his compliance with the provisions of the Constitution and other laws of the Republic.

[Dated] Tegucigalpa, 1 February 1986; Press Secretariat of the presidency of the Republic

Lopez Reyes' 2 Feb Interview

PA021915 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1436 GMT 2 Feb 86

["Exclusive" interview with General Walter Lopez Reyes, former commander in chief of the Armed Forces, by reporter Domingo Florez at the diplomatic room of Toncontin International Airport in Tegucigalpa; live telephone relay -- several brief breaks in transmission identified as "break"]

[Text] [Florez] We will talk about your resignation as commander in chief of the Armed Forces. General, what happened in [word indistinct]?

[Lopez Reyes] Daar Friend, first I want to thank you for this opportunity. Secondly, I want to greet all HRN friends and to tell (?Anau) to buy better equipment because your equipment has been failing since you approached me at the entrance to the airport.

On the other matter, there isn't much to say, Mingo. The topic has been[break] discussed [break] pertinent and I don't think I can add anything to it.

[Florez] General, is it true that you asked the president for permission to leave the country? [break] According to the bulletin, you stopped being commander of the Armed Forces at 0800 yesterday.

[Lopez Reyes] I have to do so because I am still in service in the Armed Forces and it is [break] to receive the pertinent permission to leave the country and at the same time to get authorization for a vacation. [break] Gave his approval yesterday and [break] of the note. I will be out of the country for 2 or 3 weeks, and then I will return.

[Florez] The Honduran people gave you a special reception during the time you were commander of the Armed Forces. You knew how to earn the sympathy of Honduras and how to make friends. [break] your separation from this post. Are there are internal problems within the Armed Forces which caused this? We know you. We know that you exercise every day and keep yourself in shape. How is it that [break]?

[Lopez Reyes] I made that decision for various reasons, most of all because of the overwhelming nature of this work and [break] sitautions that occur in this profession because what it produced was not physical but mental exhaustion. Therefore, I made this decision [break] November. On this occasion, I went ahead with it because I believe it was the best time. I couldn't do it last year because we were in the midst of the electoral process and thus, we believed it wasn't advisable to do it then. However, the time has come and there shouldn't be any concern about it. Every effort I made was because of the love I feel for my country and the affection I feel for everyone. My friends stem from those roots, the people's roots. I also did this because of my love for the institution I have always loved and still love. I have always said that it doesn't matter what you have to do, even spilling your own blood, for a just and noble cause, for the principles, and the values that must be revived in this country.

[Florez] So it isn't worth it to be honest in this country?

[Lopez Reyes] Well, that I couldn't [break] or answer you because I wouldn't trade them, ever.

[Florez] General, your situation is much different from that of any other command of the Armed Forces. Many citizens are deploring your separation. Did you think about this before you submitted your resignation?

[Lopez Reyes] You carry the love for your country inside your heart. I meditated a lot about this, and it doesn't mean that I have turned selfish. I [break] my country, I always thought of my friends. But the time comes when a man must decide [break] thorough analysis of some opportunities [break] with comrades who were close to me [break] cause damage, in one way or another, to a certain group of comrades. However I repeat, when a man makes a decision, it is because of personal reasons. I can tell you though that when I return, with my health restored, a clearer mind, and a stronger spirit, I will start what I decided to do many years ago: to continue fighting so that people can have their rights, so that the democratic system become a reality, and so that Morazan's ideals will prevail forever.

[Florez] Will you retire from the Army?

[Lopez Reyes] I will do whatever the armed institution orders because I am still on active duty. I will also decide whether to retire because I want to devote myself to something which will probably be banned by the law. I must put my mind in order so I can make a final decision. I will have to fight side-by-side with those who will help me in all this.

[Florez] General, you had a plan. I don't know if you still have it. You had planned to work with the country's peasant groups. You almost had a loan approved for this. Will you continue with this, despite the fact that you are withdrawing as commander in chief?

[Lopez Reyes] It is logical Mingo, it is one of my thoughts.

If I can contact my friends in the United States I will make the efforts in that regard too. We have a project. Several people gave me advice on that. Upon my return, we already planned, jointly with the labor forces, to begin to draft a document we want to complete. This document will bring much benefit for most of the people.

[Florez] Will you enter party politics later on?

[Lopez Reyes] I don't think so because it is an area in which you have to have much experience. It is also an area in which you have to fight for years. However, one doesn't know what turn life may take, and I can accept any challenge.

[Florez] General, won't these programs you want to implement in the country cause you some personal problems? Or were these the problems that prompted you to leave the Armed Forces?

[Lopez Reyes] I don't believe so. When you seek benefits for the people and respect for their rights, I don't believe that it can be a hindrance to any organization or to individuals. On the contrary, I think it is praiseworthy when this is done. If these programs imply that they will benefit all, then one must fight for them. Idealists have died because of this. When you have principles and causes, I repeat, one must fight to the end.

[Florez] There are very few men with dignity, honesty, and seriousness in Honduras. At 44, your opportunities could be enormous within the country's political arena. Have you analyzed this situation, General? With your attitude, and after gaining so many sympathizers, could you devote yourself to that, taking into account that this country needs honest and dignified people?

[Lopez Reyes] I believe that are many honest and dignified people. I also believe that there are men who want to make our country move forward. All we have been lacking here is the courage to face challenges. However, I believe that any task can be undertaken when you form a group of citizens who are aware that the country needs the efforts of men with specific qualities. Therefore, the only thing we must do is never to lose faith in this country.

[Florez] General, did the commission appointed by the Armed Forces Superior Council to visit the president and tell him about the decision made in its second session also, visit you to tell you about its decision?

[Lopez Reyes] Another commission visited me the night before. It was different from that which visited the president.

[Florez] General, was that courage to face problems and life's challenges the price you paid for the office as commander of the Armed Forces?

[Lopez Reyes] I don't believe so. The Armed Forces are also aware that efforts must be made. If we look, quantitatively, at those who are suffering, we realize that the Armed Forces are aware of that . Certain projects that will benefit the peasants will be implemented. Therefore, I would say that what we need is to become closer and have close contact with all the sectors in order to implement these ideas.

[Florez] Have you had a chance to talk with your friends within the Armed Forces Superior Council?

[Lopez Reyes] No, not yet. This has been rather quick and, as you know, I am leaving for the United States right now. However, I believe that upon my return... [changes thought] I have not been banned from talking with them later on.

[Florez] The names of three candidates have been mentioned to make up the list of three that will be submitted to Congress. They are: (Spide), Riera Lunatti, and Thuman Cordon. According to Armed Forces regulations, who has the best chance to get your position?

[Lopez Reyes] It is a decision that must be made by the Superior Council. As I said before, there are many individuals who have qualities for the post. What is needed is a good group of men so that the one who gets to be commander can carry out his work.

[Florez] Will you be an Armed Forces adviser when you stop being the commander in chief and when you return to our country.

[Lopez Reyes] Definitely, yes. That is automatic. When you are in situation like mine, the law states that you become an adviser to the commander in chief.

[Florez] The Superior Council of the Armed Forces did not ban you from this, or from leaving the country, or from the possibility of returning to the country?

[Lopez Reyes] No, not at all. I talked with Colonel Thuman Cordon last night, on the contrary, he asked me to help.

[Florez] Colonel, you didn't get dizzy with power so I imagine that being without it won't make you dizzy either.

[Lopez Reyes] I didn't get dizzy in airplanes and they were part of may profession. So, I believe that what one must do is to overcome certain situations and continue fighting.

[Florez] In 1969, you were one of Honduras' heroes. Could you recollect some of that?

[Lopez Reyes] That is something that cannot be forgotten. On that occasion, we faced situations that convinced us of why we should fight. Logically, we fight with faith in God, for our people's faith, and because we believe that our nation must remain free, sovereign, and independent.

[Florez] Our last question will be made by Companero Jose Danilo Izaguirre.

[Izaguirre] You played an important role in overcoming last year's political crisis. Don't you feel that your resignation will sow uncertainty early in this administration?

[Lopez Reyes] No, I discussed it with President Azcona. It was one of his concerns. I told him that he shouldn't worry. The Armed Forces will continue to maintain the policy of supporting the system. It is a duty to keep him in power and fight so that anything that can turn into a crisis can be stopped in time.

[Florez] A final message for the Honduran people, General?

[Lopez Reyes] Well, Mingo, I want to thank you and all other media members and tell you that you will always have a friend in me, and that you must not lose faith in God and our people and continue your efforts to guide them.

AZCONA DELIVERS SPEECH TO DIPLOMATIC CORPS

PA010351 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 2215 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Statement by President Jose Simeon Azcona Hoyo during a meeting held with the diplomatic corps accredited in Tegucigalpa on 31 January -- recorded]

[Text] Honorable chiefs of the diplomatic missions and international organizations, Messrs presidential designates, Messrs secretaries of state, ladies and gentlemen: First, I would like to thank the representatives of friendly nations with accredited missions in Honduras for having accepted my invitation to meet to exchange views, gather as friends, and discuss matters of common interest between the countries you represent and Honduras. I would also like to take advantage of all international treaties, the peoples' rights to have their own governments and, moreover, we will maintain cordial relations with all of the countries with which we have diplomatic relations.

Today, before the entire diplomatic corps accredited in Honduras, I am reaffirming my faith and trust that thanks to the Contadora Group's actions and initiative, and with the disinterested consensus of the countries comprising the Support Group, we will reach a solution to the Central American problem. That is my wish, and we are going to do our best to achieve it.

To the countries or the representatives from countries that are cooperating with Honduras, we ask you to continue helping us. Within the framework of relations based on dignity and respect, I would like to see that cooperation stimulated and increased. Through the Foreign Secretariat, you can be sure of my total determination so that our collaboration increases. To the other countries with which we have always had ties of cooperation and collaboration, my government will always be open to you. Not only will the Foreign Secretariat be open, but the Presidential House will also be open to any diplomat or representative who may have to go there to find a solution to any problem involving the two countries. The doors will be open, and I hope to continue counting on your support. You have my gratitude. May your stay in Honduras produce the best results for your diplomatic work, as well as for the well-being of your countries and Honduras. Thank you very much. [applause]

AZCONA ADDRESSES PRESIDENTIAL HONOR GUARD

PA311635 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Speech given by President Jose Simeon Azcona Hoyo at a ceremony for the transfer of command of the Presidential Honor Guard at Presidential House on 30 January -- recorded]

[Text] Commanders, officers, noncommisoned officers, security corps, soldiers, and assistance personnel of the Presidential Honor Guard; media representatives; special guests, ladies and gentlemen:

This is a very moving and significant ceremony for me, because for the first time I will exclusively address a group of Hondurans who wear with honor the uniform of one of the branches of our Armed Forces, the Honduran Army.

It is very moving, because those of us who have not had a close relationship with the Armed Forces do not realize the high level of discipline, sacrifice, and honor required from any man or woman who wears the [word indistinct] uniform of our Armed Forces, until we become immersed in these situations.

For this reason, this afternoon I want to thank you in advance, because you will accompany us for 4 years, during which time you will guarantee my security and that of my family.

We are absolutely sure that Colonel Rafael Castro Arita will perform his duties with the same honor and loyalty shown by Colonel Juan Ramon Pena Paz. We have no doubt about that.

I also want to tell you that here, a few steps from the presidential office, you will have a friend in the president of the Republic who will be glad to satisfy any of your needs for the better performance of your duties.

Finally, I again express my gratitude for, and my great satisfaction with this opportunity to share a few minutes with you this afternoon. Thank you very much.

FOREIGN SECRETARY OUTLINES NEW FOREIGN POLICY

PA310428 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 2140 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Statement by new Foreign Secretary Carlos Lopez Contreras during a ceremony to introduce him to the diplomatic corps on 30 January at the Manuel Bonilla Theater in Tegucigalpa -- recorded]

[Text] On 27 January, during the inauguration of Jose Azcona Hoyo as constitutional president of the Republic, Honduras was honored by the presence of heads of states, vice presidents, state ministers, and other top officials from friendly nations and international organizations, who kindly accompanied us during the solemn and meaningful ceremony corroborating the process of democratic consolidation in Honduras, in Central America and the continent in general.

My government is convinced that the cementing of political systems that arise from the wishes of the people, freely expressed in periodic and honest elections, is the required starting point to hope to attain a domestic peace based on the enhancement of human rights, and an international peace based on mutual respect. This view, which is valid for international relations as a whole, is no less valid in the Central American region. As I assume my duties as secretary of foreign affairs, I would like to convey to the distinguished members of the diplomatic corps as well as representatives from international organizations accredited in Tegucigalpa, my respectful and fraternal greetings. I have had the privilege and satisfaction of knowing most of you on either an official or a personal basis. Therefore, this ceremony in a way takes on the characteristic of a new meeting of friends and colleagues. I feel that this will make your and my work so much easier.

I, too, have had the honor of fulfilling diplomatic missions in American and European countries as well as in international organizations. For this reason I am aware of the delicate and hard tasks entrusted to ambassadors. I would like to assure you that I will not only be a government official but also a friend.

The government of the Republic views its foreign policies as the expression and true reflection of its domestic policies: that is, the state's actions are placed at the service of international peace, security, and friendship for the well-being of all our peoples. As President Azcona said in his inaugural address, our foreign policy in the Central American region will clearly fall within the framework of respect for the sacred principles of nonintervention in the affairs of another state and of free determination of peoples. Therefore, we ask that our sister nations also respect our right to act in accordance with our own principles.

Also, President Azcona has noted Honduras' decisive support for the generous work the Contadora and the Support Groups continue carrying out to pacify the region. Since peace is the main objective of the Honduran foreign policy. I would like to recall the message of His Holiness John Paul II on 1 January 1986, warning us that the nations of the world will only be able to fully achieve their destiny if they all unite to pursue peace as a universal (?goal). Also, the Honduran Foreign Secretary intends to reinforce the friendly relationships of cooperation Honduras has traditionally kept with the governments, peoples, and international organizations you so proudly represent.

In conclusion, I would like to take advantage of this pleasant opportunity to introduce Guillermo Caceres Pineda, whom the president swore in yesterday as the new deputy foreign secretary. I am sure he is most willing to give you all his support in official as well as personal matters. To all Your Excellencies and honorable officials, my best wishes for your continued professional achievements and personal happiness. [applause]

BRIEFS

AZCONA NAMES PRESS SPOKESMAN -- President Jose Azcona yesterday appointed journalist Lisandro Quezada as his press secretary and journalist Marco Tulio Romero as the new government's information chief. Both officials will perform specific duties within the presidency's information and press system. [Excerpt] [Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 31 Jan 86 PA]

NICARAGUA

ASTORGA APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO UNITED NATIONS

PA020012 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 31 Jan 86 p 8

[Text] Managua, [no date as published] (ANN) -- Today it was officially announced that President Daniel Ortega Saavedra has appointed current Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga to the post of ambassador to the United Nations, and that she is to assume her duties on 15 February. In addition, the presidency of the Republic issued a communique to report that Javier Chamorro Mora, the current Nicaraguan permanent representative to the United Nations, will be appointed deputy foreign minister.

After holding the post of deputy foreign minsiter for 5 years, Astorga, a political and legal sciences graduate, was nominated as ambassador to the United States 2 yars ago, but Washington rejected the appointment. The Reagan administration did not accept Astorga to that post because of her active involvement in the struggle against the military Somozist dictatorship as an FSLN militant.

Chamorro Mora, Nicaragua's ambassador to the United Nations, will take over as deputy foreign minister on 15 February, the official note stated.

RAMIREZ DISCUSSES HONDURAN, U.S. RELATIONS

PA311730 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 29 Jan 86 p 10

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado has stated that the countries of the Contadora and Support groups asked U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz for a meeting to discuss a stop "to the U.S. aggression against Nicaragua." In an exclusive interview granted to TIEMPO amid strict security measures, Ramirez Mercado said that he attended the inauguration of Jose Azcona Hoyo "with much hope that the support given to the counterrevolution will be eliminated here." A decision of this short "would mark the beginning of a new stage of relations between Honduras and Nicaragua without the pressure of a counterrevolutionary military presence and without border incidents." The Sandinist leader emphasized that "this hope was raised when President Azcona said that he is willing to respect the principles of nonintervention and mutual respect among countries." He vowed that Nicaraguans "on our part, are willing to respect the principle of nonintervention and noninterference concerning Honduras and thus expect similar behavior, as President Azcona announced."

Ramirez said that with the signing of the Caraballeda document in Venezuela and after the Declaration of Guatemala there has been a significant advance, "a booster shot," to the Contadora Process. He reiterated that Nicaragua's opinion is that there will be possibilities for an agreement within Contadora when the United States agrees to stop its aggression against Nicaragua. "Once the United States agrees to stop the aggression, the path to peace would undoubtedly be open." He announced that "the Contadora Group and the Support Group have requested a meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Shultz. The agenda for this meeting is not yet known, but it must include a stop to the U.S. aggression against Nicaragua and after that, the normalization of relations between the United States and Nicaragua."

The Nicaraguan vice president believes that the Caraballeda document was a surprise for the United States, which has been unable to assimilate so far that eight Latin American countries took a common stand in demand that that country go to the negotiations table with Nicaragua and take a serious position in regard to peace." He described as "a paradox" the rumors that are circulating according to which a defeat of the contras would increase the possibility of a direct U.S. intervention in Nicaragua. "It is a paradox that a military defeat of the contras will bring a direct U.S. military intervention closer," he noted, but immediately warned that "if the Reagan administration decides to invade our country some day, we are going to defend ourselves with the weapons we have at hand." "We are sure that it would be a debacle for the U.S. Government. We are sure that in the end the Nicaraguan people would rise victorious in the face of such an adventure, which implies a high cost, the cost of the complete destabilization of Central America." "It would be tremendous mistake by the United States. I hope that it will never make this mistake, but if it does, we are willing to face the aggression with the arms we have, with stones, with sticks, with whatever we have."

Asked if the Soviet Union would defend Nicaragua in the event of a direct U.S. attack, he responded: "I do not believe so. I do not know. The only thing I know is that the Nicaraguan people are willing to defend themselves. What I do know is that a U.S. military intervention in Nicaragua would not succeed."

He said that "it is obvious that the United States wants to use Honduras as a piece in the aggression. It will be up to the Honduran people to decide if this is possible or not."

Ramirez referred to the constant border incidents with a question: "One would have to ask why is there a Sandinist presence on the border?" "We are not fighting," he added, "a war against Honduras." "The tension is due to the fact that there are forces that want to use Honduran territory for the counterrevolution. The fact that there are contra camps in Honduras is not a fantasy."

However, he remarked: "The counterrevolution is deteriorating as the days go by because we have pushed the contras out of Nicaraguan territory." He indicated that according to military estimates, "we believe that there will be no significant anti-Sandinist forces inside Nicaragua in the next few months."

Regarding the charges of a dispute with the church, he maintained that "there will never be persecution against the church. What we have in Nicaragua is a political confrontation between certain hierarchies of the Catholic Church and the Sandinist government."

COSTA RICAN CANDIDATES SUPPORT U.S. CONTRA POLICY

PA012209 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] It was learned tonight that Costa Rican presidential candidates Oscar Arias and Rafael Calderon have praised the financial assistance that the Reagan government supplies to the counterrevolutionary forces that attack Nicaragua. Social Christian candidate Rafael Calderon was the first to justify the aggressive U.S. policy against Nicaragua. Oscar Arnulfo Arias also justified the warmongering policy against Nicaragua. These statements made by the two candidates, who are the ones with the greatest probability of winning the presidential elections, indicate the kind of foreign policy they will practice in that Central American nation.

LA PRENSA TEMPORARILY DROPS SUNDAY EDITION

PA012153 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 30 Jan 86 pp 1, 4

[Text] To LA PRENSA readers: Owing to a shortage of raw materials, especially paper, plates, chemicals, and many other materials used to publish LA PRENSA, we regret to inform our readers, representatives, and newspaper sellers that this newspaper will not appear on Sunday until our requests for these supplies are normalized. This force majeure prompts us to offer our apologies to our sympathizers from all over the country hoping that in the not too distant future we will be able to appear again on Sundays. For the time being our newspaper will come out Mondays through Saturdays.

MISKITOS WARN HONDURAS ABOUT SANDINIST OFFENSIVE

PA020148 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1715 GMT 1 Feb 86

[By Armando Cerrato]

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 1 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- Today the Nicaraguan rebel organization, KISAN, [Unity of the Nicaraguan Atlantic Coast Indigenous Peoples] warned the Honduran Army that the Managua Sandinist regime has mobilized 6,500 soldiers to the La Mosquila border area.

The Gracias a Dios Department in eastern Honduras is also known in Honduras as "La Mosquitia" and borders directly with Zelaya Department in northern Nicaragua, also known by the same name.

According to a communique issued by KISAN, the Sandinist troops will have the same mission as those troops stationed in other areas bordering with Honduras: "Harass Honduran territory with artillery, heavy machineguns, and specialized infantry missions."

The anti-Sandinist Indian organization claims that "our intelligence forces have detected large artillery and infantry movements on the Nicaraguan side of La Mosquitia and we fear there will soon be an attack against the camps of the Miskito refugees."

Honduras has stationed an infantry battalion about 70 km from the Lempira Port air installations, near the camps housing approximately 18,000 Nicaraguan Indian refugees.

KISAN is the Indian name taken by the rebel MISURA organization that stands for "Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramas," the three Indian races [as received] living on the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua. The rebel group arose in the last 3 months of 1985, when it was decided to expel MISURA military leader Steadman Fagoth Muller from the country for trying to set up an autocratic regime directed by him, overruling the Council of the Elders of the Indians.

"We know that the Sandinists are moving Soviet-made tanks and helicopters to protect their infantry in the plains of Bismuna, Kum, Waslala, Bilwaskarma, and Rio Arriba," a KISAN communique issued here today said.

KISAN, which means "United Mosquitia," claims that its military forces, estimated at some 3,000 men, have already clashed with the advancing Sandinist forces. They claim they have caused 41 Sandinist casualties and forced the Sandinists in some areas to halt their advance and sometimes retreat considerable distances. The members of KISAN admitted that one of their "warriors" was killed and three others wounded.

"We know that sooner or later, the larger, belligerent Sandinist apparatus will foil our efforts to halt them in their advance, but we will continue struggling," the rebel organization announced.

KISAN insists that "once the Sandinists reach the Honduran border, Honduras is in danger, because those people do not respect whether they are in Nicaragua or not." The members of the Indian community who are in Honduras have charged on several occasions that the Sandinists "have waged a campaign to exterminate the Indian population from the Atlantic coastal area."

EFE PREVIEWS PCC CONGRESS DOCUMENT

Foreign Policy Objectives

PA011950 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1840 GMT 1 Feb 86

[By Juan Jesus Aznarez]

[Text] Havana, 1 Feb (EFE) -- Cuba will continue to support the revolutionary movements throughout the world and is willing to solve its historic crisis with the United States on the basis of strict respect for each other's sovereignty.

This premise is set forth in the "Principles and Objectives of Foreign Policy" section of the draft platform of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] -- a document to which EFE gained access on the eve of the Third Party Congress.

"As part of our contribution to the development of the world revolutionary process, we will strive to achieve the unity and consolidation of the diverse forces that integrate this process," the lengthy 137-page document states. "All the revolutionaries of the world will always find in the PCC a firm, loyal, consistent ally," the document said, noting the guidelines to be followed in the next 5 years. The document will be presented for the consideration of the congress plenum, which will begin to meet this coming Tuesday in a session attended by 1,700 delegates. It will later be subject to study of oth · basic principles until its final approval at an extraordinary meeting to be held in D cember of this year.

The Cuban communists stress: "We continue to be willing to solve the historic difference in our relations with the United States on the basis of strict respect for our independence and sovereignty and totally abiding by the principle of equality between the two states."

Cuba also announced that it will "continue to participate resolutely in the common struggle to cancel the unpayable foreign debt of Latin America and the Third World" and believes that in the world "there is an indissoluble link between the problems of development and peace."

The PCC indicates that it will also promote economic integration "on the path to achieving a vast Latin American and Caribbean community, free of U.S. control."

The document notes that the international policy of the country "is a peace policy" and that "the struggle for peace has been and will continue to be the most important international order for our country." Meanwhile, it notes "the historic and indestructible nature of its friendship with the Soviet Union" and the wish to "strengthen and develop" relations with the African countries. "Our party and peoples will continue to honorably fulfill their internationalist duties, exercising solidarity with the peoples who are struggling for their independence and national liberation," the document adds.

Cuba will continue in the Nonaligned Movement and will participate in the "CEMA" (common market of the socialist bloc). "The international relations of economic and scientific-technical cooperation will be promoted "independently of the social regime, based on equality and mutual respect."

After coming out against the arms buildup, the Cuban communists note that they will maintain "an active participation" in international forums, especially in those of the United Nations and specialized organizations.

The draft platform alludes to the development of relations with other political parties and movements and joint actions with the socialist and social democratic parties. "We will support the worker class of the capitalist, developed countries and their progressive forces in defending the rights of the workers," another part of the document states.

"Cuba will continue to strive so that its foreign policy faithfully reflects its position as a socialist Latin American and Caribbean country," the report concludes.

The part dedicated to the party's foreign policy covers six pages of the document, which is divided in two parts: the first recalls the independence process of Cuba and the second refers to "the objectives and tasks of the PCC to culminate building socialism,"

Military Capabilities

PA021704 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0913 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Havana, 2 Feb (EFE) -- Cuba will strengthen its military capability within the next 5 years, and has a plan to "eliminate the enemy," especially its chiefs and officers, in the event of an invasion of the island. The draft of the PCC plan, which will be studied at the congress that begins next Tuesday, outlines the country's policy under the title of "the Defense of the Socialist Fatherland." The document, to which EFE gained access on the eve of the Caribbean nation's most important political meeting, has 187 pages and discusses various aspects of the socio-political and economic plans.

"The necessary material and human resources will be dedicated to defense, creating conditions to increase the country's defensive powers, and promoting the people's inclusion in all of these tasks," the report states.

The PCC emphasizes that in the event of an invasion, the effort will be made to "make the enemies' lives impossible and to prevent them at all costs from establishing their imperial order."

"To eliminate the enemies, particularly their chiefs and officers," and "be unrelenting with those who surrender and betray" are other lines of action planned.

The hypothesis mentioned expresses the decision to impose our will on the enemies, make them desist from their intentions of reestablishing capitalism in Cuba, and struggle until we defeat and expel them from the fatherland."

The Cuban communists stress the importance of "the people's war" against possible invaders, which will allow them "to face the imperialist aggression in any of its forms or variations, including massive air attacks, naval blockades, a war of attrition, or even an invasion."

"The people's war will allow the creation of conditions to wage an armed struggle under the physical-geographic, socio-economic, and demographic characteristics of the different areas and territories," the document adds. The draft of the plan, the main document of the congress, along with the central report, which will be read by President Fidel Castro, refers to the need for the "country's full preparation for defense," with political, military and civil defense training.

After discussing the advantages of preparing the "Revolutionary Armed Forces, "Territorial Troop Militia," and "Production and Defense Brigades," the party states that Cuba has a "powerful territorial defense system.: Cuban military policy establishes that during the next 5 years, in keeping with the previous period, there will be obligatory military service and training for reserves, militia, and high school and university students.

The Communist Party attributes "a decisive and growing role" to the political and ideological preparation of Armed Forces personnel and their education in the principles of "Marxism-Leninism, socialist patriotism, and proletariat internationalism."

"It is of the utmost importance to continue educating the revolutionary Armed Forces in the spirit of the most brotherly, cooperative, and combat friendship ties with the socialist countries' Armed Forces, and most of all with the Soviet Union," the report points out.

The PCC considers a single military command [mando unico militar] as the most suitable, and "special attention to the corps of officers, the backbone of our military institutions," is part of its work priorities. "Their formation and excellence is a decisively important task," the draft of the program adds.

Within the military strategy designed by Cuba, the need to perfect measures aimed at avoiding the element of surprise, the organization and alertness of the troops, and economic objectives stand out, as well as the need to ensure that from the earliest indications of a hypothetical attack "strong blows" are dealt against the enemies, "causing them the greater losses."

The PCC also considers it "of great importance" to continue preparing for times of war.

In another part of this section, the plan states "the deepest conviction" that in the event of "an imperialist attack" Cuba would have the support of peoples and the solidarity of governments and the progressive forces of the world.

REPORTAGE ON INTERNATIONAL PEDAGOGY-86 CONGRESS

Opening Ceremonies

FL291730 [Editorial Report] Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish at 1402 GMT on 29 January carried live coverage of the inauguration in Havana's Karl Marx theater of the International Pedagogy-86 Congress which, it has been announced, will deal basically with the Cuban public education system.

The establishing shot shows the interior of the Karl Marx Theater as the announcer explains that the activities of the congress consist of the 27 January pre-congress activities, visits to schools, hospitals, and other centers, special lectures, roundtables, etc. The announcer describes the congress as having "the essential goal of exchanging information on scientific pedagogical experiences that will surely contribute to reaffirming the cultural identity of Latin America." The delegates then stand as the Cuban national anthem is played, and at 1403 GMT, staff announcer Manolo Ortega initiates the congress with an explanation that the congress will meet in Havana from 29 to 31 January. He says that a total of 3,500 educators are attending the congress, of which more than 2,300 are invited guests and delegates. He explains that the activities of the congress will include four general lectures and six special lectures, nine roundtables, and 33 committees that will study approximately 750 studies.

He then introduces Cuban Education Minister Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Council of Ministers, who will give the first conference on the subject "Development of Education in Cuba."

At 1405 GMT, Fernandez begins by greeting all the participants and guests and welcoming the foreign educators, saying he is sure the congress "will make possible a fruitful exchange of information on their experience and will permit the cementing of strong ties of friendship and cooperation of all the participants in achieving their common goals."

He begins his lecture by reviewing Cuban colonial history as a colony of Spain and the concomitant lack of a public education system. He cites Cuban educational development during the 19th century, identifying Jose Marti as that century's chief educational figure. He reviews the period 1668-1895 and describes U.S. intervention in 1898 and the 1898 Treaty of Paris, which gave the United States power in Cuba and The Philippines.

He touches on the U.S. educational program for Cuba from 1898 on, the changes in the Cuban Government in the early 20th century, the Platt Amendment, the cession of bases to the United States, and U.S. cultural penetration in Cuba, with its effects on the Cuban educational system.

He describes U.S. influence in Cuba under the Republic founded in 1902, the second U.S. occupation of Cuba in 1906, and the ensuing decades of corrupt government after the U.S. occupation ended. He describes the situation of Cuban school children during this period as deplorable; public instruction languished, and there were only three normal schools in all Cuba.

He then reviews the progress of education after the Cuban revolution: the 1961 literacy campaign with its voluntary teachers, and the Ana Betancur educational plan for peasant girls, which taught the girls how to sew and provided them with free sewing machines. He says that more than 700,000 illiterates learned to read and write in 1961 and that the number of illiterates has dropped every year since then. He describes successive educational programs, which are now culminating in the "struggle for the 9th grade." He then describes the new education law, which has made basic changes in the Cuban educational system and opened public education to the masses, and reviews the improvements in technical education under the Castro regime, together with the growth of the entire educational system after 1961.

He then describes Cuban educational aid given freely to other countries, and Cuba's intention to continue perfecting its own educational system, providing a 9th grade education to all children and then preuniversity studies or technical studies, while improving the level of professional competence of the educators. He discusses the linkage between social justice and education, describing the struggle to improve the educational system as a "struggle to achieve a better world."

At 1543 GMT, Education Minister Fernandez concludes his inaugural lecture and the camera returns immediately to the studio.

Closing Ceremony

FL010730 [Editorial Report] Havana Domestic Service in Spanish at 0228 GMT on 1 February begins live coverage from Havana Karl Marx Theater of the ceremony concluding the International Pedagogy-86 Congress.

At 0230 GMT, the audience begins applauding and then a full shot is given of President Fidel Castro. The Cuban national anthem is played and a full shot of the Cuban flag is shown.

While the anthem is playing, the camera pans the dais and shows Education Minister Jose Ramon Fernandez, Vice President of the Councils of State and Ministers Ramiro Valdes Menendez, and Federation of Cuban Women President Vilma Espin. Raul Castro is not present at the ceremony.

Tele-Rebelde announcer Manolo Ortega approaches the podium at 0232 GMT and introduces the next speaker, Dr Edgardo (Enriquez) from Chile. A full shot is given of Castro as (Enriquez) steps up to the podium followed by a full shot of the dais. The wall behind the podium is covered with a "Pedagogia-86"banner.

At 0233 GMT, (Enriquez) begins saying he accepts the applause "with profound emotion and gratitude. It is not for me, but for the cause I represent, which the martyr-President Salvador Allende would encourage and defend in the struggle for economic and cultural independence of Chile and America."

(Enriquez) reviews the process of approving the final declaration. The document was submitted for everyone's approval in each of the 28 commissions this morning, says (Enriquez). He also indicates that the declaration was approved by consensus. (Enriquez) then reads the final declaration "by educators for a better world."

The declaration begins by "expressing our appreciation to Cuba for hosting an extensive, pluralistic, and democratic event that has permitted more than 3,500 education workers to meet from 35 countries, the majority from Latin America and the Caribbean."

(Enriquez) reads from the declaration saying that the educators discussed "the role of the educator in the struggle for the benefit of man and social progress." The statement which (Enriquez) reads praises Cuban education as an example for everyone. The educators also praise the opportunity to meet in Cuba and exchange opinions. "We are aware," reads (Enriquez) "that the advances in the educational area are intimately linked to social, economic, and political problems, and in particular, to the worsening economic crisis that our people's carry, the ominous weight of the foreign debt, the overwhelming interest payments, and the prevailing, unjust international economic order. Because of this we pronounce ourselves in favor of solutions that are in accordance with national, legitimate interests of the Latin American and Caribbean people."

(Enriquez) continues reading: "We condemn the military dictatorships sustained by transnational capital. "We agree with the idea expressed during the event that one of the basic tasks for educators is the struggle for a better world, which calls for an end to the arms race, world disarmament, and the guarantee of peace among the peoples peoples."

The declaration ends with a quotation from Simon Bolivar and (Enriquez) concludes reading the declaration at 0245 GMT.

The camera plans the audience and they give him a standing ovation. The balcony and the main floor of the auditorium appear to be full. The camera gives a medium shot of Castro standing and applauding.

At 0247 GMT (Enriquez) holds a brief consultation at the podium with an unidentified man and then asks permission from Castro if he can say a few more words.

(Enriquez) praises the declaration and his colleagues. "As a Chilean," he says, "I prefer to begin by emphasising the conviction that the unstable military dictatorship that oppresses my country has its days numbered." This elicits applause from the audience. The Chilean delegate is critical of the regimes in Chile, Paraguay, and Haiti, which he says are "sustained by Yankee imperialism."

He also is critical of the "foreign debts that have been inherited united with unequal trade, social-economic structural deformities, total dependence on international capital, and Yankee imperialism."

(Enriquez) concludes his speech at 0254 GMT. The camera pans the audience giving (Enriquez) another standing ovation. The camera gives a full shot of (Enriquez) shaking hands with Ramon Fernandez.

Ramon Fernandez addresses the audience at 0255 GMT saying: "You have heard the final declaration of the congress, which you were familiar with as it was submitted at different working sessions." The education minister then puts the declaration up for a vote. He asks for those in favor of the declaration to raise their hands. The camera gives a wide shot of the audience raising their hands. Ramon Fernandez then asks for a show of hands of those who are against the statement. The camera pans the audience and there appears to be no one raising their hands against the declaration. This causes much discussion among the audience. The minister then asks for abstentions and, once again, no one raises their hands. The audience applauds as Ramon Fernandez announces that the declaration has been unanimously approved.

At 0252 GMT, the Tele-Rebelde announcer returns to the podium and introduces President Fidel Castro. The camera follows Castro from his seat to the podium. In his speech, he discusses the pedagogy congress, the upcoming Third Party Congress, and rumors of his death which circulated last week. He states he has not participated in the pedagogy congress because he has had to devote himself to the preparation of the Third Party Congress main report. Castro then reviews the development of Cuban education. Castro ends his speech at 0447 GMT and the camera returns to the studio.

URUGUAYAN OFFICIAL ARRIVES TO SET UP EMBASSY

PA311740 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] (Tabara Bocalandro), a Uruguayan Foreign Ministry official, has arrived in Havana to initiate arrangements for the installation of his country's embassy in Cuba. In statements given to PRENSA LATINA, (Bocalandro) stated Uruguay's interest in strengthening diplomatic, economic, and cultural relations with our country. Diplomatic ties between Cuba and Uruguay were reestablished by President Julio Maria Sanguinetti 22 years after they were broken.

HAITI

POLITICAL UNREST, DEMONSTRATIONS CONTINUE

Ministry Refutes U.S. Report

PA311604 Paris AFP in Spanish 1548 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 31 Jan (AFP) -- The Information Ministry today formally denied the reports from the White House that President Jean-Claude had been overthrown. The president was seen in Port-au-Prince by the AFP correspondent at 0900 local today (1400 GMT) in a caravan of vehicles headed for an unknown destination.

At the same time, a violent demonstration against the government was under way in downtown Port-au-Prince.

The Information Ministry announced that the president is in the government palace after having inspected the city. According to the AFP correspondent, Duvalier's vehicle was traveling at a fast speed under the protection of military and militia members and managed to get through a crowd of demonstrators without incident.

Duvalier: 'Situation in Hand'

PA311824 Paris AFP in English 1812 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Paris, Jan 31 (AFP) -- President Jean-Claude Duvalier has no intention of quitting Haiti and says he has "the situation well in hand," a source close to his family said in Paris. The source said that at 1530 GMT Mr Duvalier telephones a member of his family residing in Paris and said he had "no intention of leaving Haiti." Mr Duvalier added that he had taken steps to restore order and that he had "the situation well in hand," the source [word indistinct]. Mr Duvalier was in the presidential palace in Port-au-Prince when he made the call, which coincided with a White House announcement that he had been ousted and fled the country, the source added. The report was itself denied by Mr Duvalier in a [word indistince] (?announcement) and later [words indistinct] officials. The family member was not identified.

Duvalier Addresses Nation

PA311851 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1843 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 31 Jan (DPA) President for Life Jean-Claude Duvalier has just spoken on television to the country from the National Palace in Port-au-Prince. In his message, Duvalier said that he is in the country and that he will continue to hold power, thus denying U.S. White House reports about his alleged overthrow and subsequent flight abroad.

The presidential message was broadcast live in a simultaneous transmission by the radio and television network. "I will continue working with courage and dignity for economic progress for the benefit of the majority of the people" Duvalier said. "I understand your impatience regarding the economic problems, but it is counterproductive if disorder and anarchy reign in the country."

The president for life addressed the country from a podium located in the National Palace in the capital. He was accompanied by his heavily armed bodyguards and by all of his Cabinet ministers.

He added that he will soon make known a "new plan for Haitian society." "Everyone will benefit from the possibilities and wealth of our economy. The plan is already prepared," he said. He said that he "will continue to respect human rights and social changes; and will continue with the program of democratization and liberalization."

Capital Situation 'Tense'

LD311943 Paris Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Excerpt] In Haiti, President Jean-Claude Duvalier's regime is vacillating. Martial law has been declared throughout the country. Baby Doc has great difficulty in controlling the antigovernment unrest that has increased in the last few days. The population went out into the streets of the capital, Port-au-Prince, in protest against what it calls the regime's unleashed corruption. The Americans, through the voice of White House spokesman Larry Speakes, went as far as to announce the fall of the government and President Duvalier's flight -- information denied a few minutes ago by the White House itself as well as by Haiti radio. One was even able to hear an address by Jean-Claude Duvalier but it has not been made clear whether the speech was live or recorded. This being said, Philippe Reltien [radio correspondent] managed to reach a member of the French Embassy staff a few minutes ago on the telephone in Port-au-Prince:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] A state of emergency was declared this morning. The only measure applied was the closing down of three independent radio stations -- a Catholic radio station, a Protestant radio station, and another radio station called Radio Cacique. That's it. It seems that the demonstrations (?extended) to the provinces. There was some movement also in Port-au-Prince, but the president reportedly went out in the streets this morning. [Words indistinct] was to make a statement this afternoon on TV. I did not see him, I only heard the report on the national radio.

[Reltien] How can you explain the fact that the Americans announced his departure?

[Speaker] Because of the rumors spread by the exiles in Miami. There has indeed been an uprising of the people who were to be hired to cut sugar cane and three people reportedly died from asphyxiation during the uprising.

[Reltien] On the other hand it is said that a call for the boycott of the carnival was reportedly made -- the carnival being more or less organized by the state.

[Speaker] Yes, the carnival is indeed encouraged by the government. In any case, the (?holding) of the carnival will be in doubt again because of the state of emergency. There are some movements in certain districts of the town, there are gas stations on fire and car tires blocking some streets.

[Reltien] So there are riots throughout the capital....

[Speaker, interrupting] Yes, there are movements of the crowds. All of a sudden the streets are becoming empty because the people heard there may be an intervention, things like that....

[Reltien, interrupting] Is the Army present in the streets?

[Speaker] I do not know, (?at least) from what I am told.

[Reltien] So the situation is fairly tense.

[Speaker] Yes, it is tense in certain districts of the town. [end recording]

President Remains 'Protected'

PA010021 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2317 GMT 31 Jan 86

[By Ricardo Medina]

[Excerpts] Port-au-Prince, 31 Jan (EFE) -- President-for-life Jean-Claude Duvalier remains protected behind the walls of his palace in Port-au-Prince while tens of blacks sit in the shade outside the palace and wait for the end of the lifelong empire. Today at noon, hours after he imposed the state of siege and after suspending the few constitutional guarantees that still exist in the country, Duvalier addressed the 5.5 million Haitians in a speech aired via radio and television.

The businesses in the capital city are closed and protected by grills. The sidewalks are full of dust and the streets are practically deserted except for the small groups of six people each who gather to talk about the rumors and imagine what Haiti would be without Duvalier.

The "Francois Duvalier" airport is open, even though it is surrounded by curious people who observe that in an "Air Haiti" hangar there are large wooden crates that are being placed in a cargo plane. The "Air France" flights from San Juan, Puerto Rico, and "Eastern Airlines" flights from Miami, Florida arrived on schedule.

Some shots were heard near Port-au-Prince; however, according to the people who heard the shots, these could have been warning shots.

"Radio Soleil," "Radio Lumiere," and "Radio Cacique," the three stations that broadcast unofficial reports recently, are not on the air today. The government's radio station is repeatedly playing a lengthy version of "La Bamba," which combines all of the existing Caribbean rhythms. The music only stopped at 1600 so that an Information Ministry announcer could broadcast a 10-minute tirade against the "irresponsible" statements issued by Reagan's spokesman. The announcer, who has a better French accent than Jean-Claude Duvalier, said that the government in Port-au-Prince has demanded an explanation from the government in Washington through Ambassador Clayton E. McManaway.

Duvalier appeared alone during his statement via state-owned television without the usual presence of his wife. This provoked rumors that she and their 2-year-old son, Nicolas, had abandoned the country. An unidentified airplane took off during the night from the Haitian capital's airport, but neither the government nor the U.S. Embassy gave details about the aircraft's passengers.

Five Killed in Demonstrations

PA010339 Paris AFP in Spanish 0253 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Port-au-Prince, 31 Jan (AFP) -- Five persons were killed and 60 wounded -- 17 by gunshots -- in antigovernment demonstrations this morning in Port-au-Prince, hospital sources reported.

Amid shouts of "Long Live the Army, Down With Duvalier," several thousand youths initiated demonstrations against the president in the main streets of the northern city, immediately after the state of siege was announced.

The Army intervened very moderately, limiting themselves to clearing the sidewalks and spraying the demonstrators with hoses. At midmorning, however, the militia (Tontons Macoutes) started firing, almost always in the air: Five persons were killed, some of them -- an undisclosed number -- by gunshots, and approximately 60 were wounded. In the afternoon, stores remained closed, but there were no incidents or demonstrations in the capital.

However, in Gonaives, 152 km northwest of Port-au-Prince, several thousand demonstrators sacked stores today and demolished the mayor's home.

In Cap Haitien, where in the morning the government closed the Catholic station La Voix de L'Ave Maria, and an independent private radio station, La Voix du Nord, the situation was calm.

In Port-au-Prince, military patrols were still visible tonight, just as in Gonaives and Cap Haitien.

Exile Group Plans March

PA012028 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1950 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] Santo Domingo, 1 Feb (EFE) -- Louis Eugene Athis, coordinator of the Democratic Movement for Haitian Liberation (Modelh) [Movimiento Democratico de la Liberacion de Haiti] announced that its leaders are marching to Haiti "to struggle for the establishment of democracy in that nation, which has been ruled by one of the cruelest dictatorships."

Athis called on the Haitian exiles in the Dominican Republic to "return to their fatherland to struggle for the definitive overthrow of Duvalier." At a press conference held in a restaurant of this city today, Athis said that his organization will support any government that is established in Haiti, with the only condition that it respect the dignity and rights of the Haitian peoples.

Three hooded Haitians were presented during the press conference, allegedly coming from the cities of Gonaives, Cap Haitien, and Port-au-Prince, to give first-hand reports on the popular demonstrations that have taken place there against Duvalier's government.

In fact, Athis said that the three fellow countrymen had to appear hooded because they will return to Haiti before the leaders of the Modelh begin their march to the fatherland. He explained that the fall of dictator Duvalier does not mean the liberation of the Haitian people, but rather the beginning of the struggle that will be carried out for the definitive liberation of Haiti.

Meanwhile, the national leadership of the revolutionary youth, which is part of the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) in power, announced its support for the struggle of the Haitian people for liberty and democracy.

According to PRD sources, this coming Monday the Dominican Revolutionary Youth will begin to hold a number of activities in support of the Haitian people.

U.S. Citizens Waiting To Leave

PA012336 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2235 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 1 Feb (EFE) -- Some 400 U.S. citizens are impatiently waiting today at Francois Duvalier International Airport in Port-au-Prince to return to their country, in view of the conflict in this Caribbean country. Flights coming from and leaving for Santo Domingo are prohibited, an airport source told EFE. Six planes from the Lear-Jet Company, specializing in flights for executives, have not been allowed to leave the airport.

Air controllers are expecting planes in the next few hours from American Airlines, Air Canada, Antillian Airlines and Haiti Airlines.

Radio Nationale, the only radio station allowed to broadcast, used its newscasts today to insult White House spokesman Larry Speakes. The station never mentioned the name of President Ronald Reagan. On Friday Speakes announced the fall of President Jean-Claude Duvalier's regime and that he had fled the country.

On Friday Duvalier decreed a state of siege throughout the country and an hour later the National Assembly ratified, as it usually does, the latest measures implemented by the president-for-life.

6-Hour Curfew in Cap Haitien

PA021228 Paris AFP in English 1203 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Port-au-Prince, Feb 2 (AFP) -- The military today imposed a six-hour curfew on Haiti's second city, Cap Haitien, after firing in populated districts which had lasted for most of the night. President-for-Life Jean-Claude Duvalier, faced with rising riots in several cities against his family's 28-year old regime, had announced a 30-day nation-wide state of seige on Friday. The curfew in Cap Haitien, 260 kilometers (160 miles) north of the capital, began at seven A.M. Yesterday the city had been quiet, while clashes were reported in Gonaives and Les Cayes.

Reporters' Movements Restricted

PA021454 Paris AFP in Spanish 1408 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 2 Feb (AFP) -- The Haitian minister of state for interior and national defense has announced that foreign reporters are no longer authorized to leave the limits of Port-au-Prince to go to the provinces. This "temporary" ban is aimed at guaranteeing their personal safety, the government noted today.

Reporters, Opposition Members Arrested

PA021638 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1515 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 2 Feb (EFE) -- Four Canadian reporters were arrested early yesterday morning in Port-au-Prince by the "Tontons Macoutes," the political police of the Haitian President for Life Jean Claude Duvalier. The reporters left the hotel where they were staying at approximately 2230 and 15 minutes later they found they were being followed by an automobile in which there were five heavily-armed people.

The four reporters told EFE that the taxi they were riding in through the streets of Port-au-Prince was taken to the police headquarters.

The four reporters are Charles Faribeault, Jacques Camirand, Jean Rene Dupont, and Jean Thibault who told EFE about their little odyssey a few minutes after they were released. The reporters are special correspondents for TVA of Canada and arrived on Saturday from Montreal. They said that at police headquarters they saw approximately 15 Haitians lying face down on the floor with their hands behind their necks. The Duvalier police, which declared a state of siege on Friday, in recent hours have been arresting alleged members of the opposition in the capital city and in various cities in the interior.

Demonstration Death Toll Rises

PA022124 Paris AFP in Spanish 2055 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 2 Feb (AFP) -- Twenty people were killed during Friday's demonstrations in Port-au-Prince, reliable sources in the Haitian capital have revealed. This increases the toll of the demonstrations that have been taking place in Haiti since last 28 November to 42 dead and 123 injured, unofficial sources reported. Militia men killed seven antigovernment demonstrators on Friday in Leogane, 30 km southeast of Port-au-Prince. According to rumors running rampant throughout Port-au-Prince, the injured are being taken straight to the capital's military hospitals and not to civilian ones.

Military Parade Canceled

PA022158 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0445 GMT 2 Feb 86

[By Ricardo Medina]

[Excerpts] Port-au-Prince, 1 Feb (EFE) -- The "Tontons Macoutes" today arrested many people in this capital while, according to observers, President-for-Life Jean-Claude Duvalier today gave clear evidence of instability. Just yesterday Duvalier had confirmed that he would preside over a military parade to honor the 27th anniversary of the creation of his loyal "Leopards," an elite Armed Forces group. However, a National Palace spokesman has informed EFE that "the parade was called off because we are under a state of siege and the soldiers are on alert."

Before, observers had commented that the route and duration of the parade, as well as the presence of the Duvalier family, would serve as a barometer of the situation of "Baby Doc," as Haiti's strongman is popularly known. A few hours before the parade was scheduled to begin a diplomatic source told EFE that "if the parade is called off it might indicate that he [Duvalier] is facing problems in the palace."

While Duvalier continued locked up in the very closely-guarded National Palace, eyewitnesses told EFE that the Tontons Macoutes, the political police, today made several arrests in downtown Port-au-Prince. The arrests were made inside the central market as well as in the surrounding area. An unspecified number of anti-Duvalier demonstrators, presumed to number several thousand, also took to the streets of Gonaives, Les Cayes, and Saint-Marc to demand an end to the 28-year-old Duvalier regime.

Trustworthy sources told EFE that journalist Ledi Pier, of Gonaives' "Radio Independence," was arrested by the police in the Raboteau district of this city in northern Haiti.

In Les Cayes eight houses were set on fire and one person was killed by gunfire, but the city was calm by late afternoon. Among the homes set on fire by the crowd was that of Marcel Fleurimon, a wealthy landowner who owns the second largest sugar mill in Haiti. Fleurimon has profitable business ties with U.S. companies.

The sources added that in Les Cayes the residence of a former commander of the Duvalier militia was also burned down. Groups of people also demonstrated in the town of Saint-Marc, 90 minutes by car north of Port-au-Prince, but there were no reports of victims or damage.

The reported fatality in Les Cayes has brought to 13 the unofficial number of dead in Haiti since the president-for-life imposed a state of siege in this Francophone Caribbean republic on Friday.

Since last night U.S. Ambassador Clayton McManaway and White House spokesman Larry Speakes (who announced Duvalier's overthrow on Friday) have been the object of insults on Radio Nationale, the only radio station on the air in this country of 5.5 million inhabitants.

Police Guarantee Security

PA030126 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0104 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Port-au-Prince, 2 Feb (EFE) -- Col Gregoire Figaro, commander in chief of the police in Port-au-Prince, today warned Haitians that any attempt to keep the shops and businesses from closing their doors on Monday will be thwarted. [sentence as received]

A Radio Nationale announcer read this announcement tonight, after some military music was played. The announcement assures all citizens, especially foreign executives that there will be full guarantees for those showing up at their work places. According to various Haitian sources, it is foreseeable that the agitation rocking this country of 5.5 million people will increase on Monday. The above announcement was made at 1900 on Radio Nationale, the only radio station operating since the state of siege was implemented.